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Forword

It is with no small degree of pride and humility that the committee in charge of this Historical Booklet submits it to our readers.

We are proud to be a part of a community so rich in historical background and proud and humble to have had the privilege to compile these historical facts.

With no apologies let us say that we realize that much of interest has necessarily been omitted due in great part to lack of space. It has been our desire to include those items which should be of greatest interest to the greatest number of people.

We regret that it was impossible to pay personal tribute to the many men and women of our community who have brought credit not only to themselves, but to their community in many fields of endeavor. Suffice it to say that we are proud of all of them and happy to claim them as Cherokeeans.

May we express our sincere thanks to all who have in any way contributed to this book, by sharing information, writing of articles, loaning of pictures, typing of manuscripts and to the many who have given us words of enouragement.

Committee — Mrs. Paul Hoyt, chairman; Mrs. Charles Ellsworth, Mrs. Eulas Quinn; Mrs. Irv Begler, Mrs. Garth Bigbee, Mr. C. H. D. Smith, Mrs. Erma Smith, Mr. R. J. Thomas, Mr. E. S. Stiles, Mr. Irv Begler, Mr. Warren Reed, Mr. R. T. Steele, Dr. A. J. Fritz, Dr. F. H. Collings.

Foreword

The Merry Little Sioux

By C. E. Whitney,

A pioneer resident, who came to Cherokee County in 1876.

In history of old I've often heard it told
Of many things both old and new
But never have I heard or written seen a word
Of the banks of the Merry Little Sioux.

The citizens are fair and deal upon the square,
And to a friend in need are ever true,
And the neghbors all are kind as any you find,
On the banks of our Merry Little Sioux.

The country it is good for water and for wood,
And many things I cannot mention too;
And judging from the soil I'm sure there's coal and oil
On the banks of the Merry Little Sioux

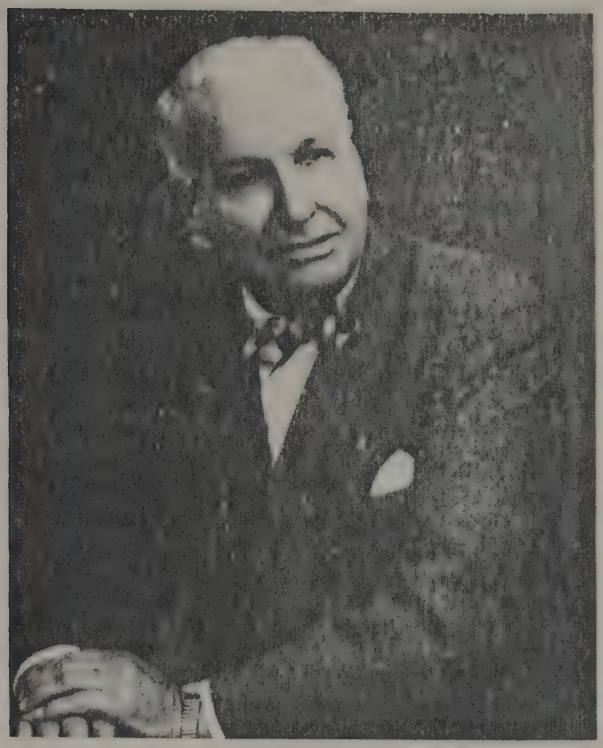
The country can't be beat for raising corn and wheat;
Or any other grain that ever grew,
You need not work, you'll find and then come out behind
On the banks of our Merry Little Sioux.

There's every kind of game that one would wish to name,
The elk and deer do roam the timber through;
And there's many a royal dish of the finest kind of fish
Sporting deep in our Merry Little Sioux.

I would say to those who roam in search of a new home,
Take my advice, the best thing you can do
Is to bring along your wife, and settle down for life
On the banks of the Merry Little Sioux.

And those who have no wife, the comfort of man's life,
One who is faithful, kind and true,
I'm sure that you can find, just the girl to suit your mind
On the banks of the Merry Little Sioux.

Greetings From Hon. Guy M. Gillette



Not long ago one of our noted authors and playwrights wrote of a community in Wales, British Isles under the title "How Green Was My Valley."

During the past few years my duties have taken me through most of the colonial areas of our United States which have been under cultivation for more than 300 years. And through central and southern Europe which has been intensively farmed for the 2000 years of the Christian Era. And through the near eastern portion of Asia which over 5000 years ago supported the immense population of great empires such as the Babylonian, the Assyrian and the Persian. And also along the wonderful Nile valley of Africa where records of high cultivation go back more than 10,000 years.

Always when I have returned to Cherokee and compared the conditions in those other areas of my travels, after centuries of their occupancy, with the marvelous development of our own little Sioux Valley after less than a century of settlement, I say to myself in the words of the playwright, "How green is my valley, how blessed by the Almighty."

Let us show, in this year's Centennial commemoration, our pride in this wonderful community of ours and its marvelous development since the little band of settlers from Milford, Massachusetts first came into our valley in 1856.

Guy M. Gillette

CHAPTER 1

In The Beginning

The land that once had known the heat and turmoil of beginning, had experienced eons of the sea's dark, flowing depths, and felt the spark of life begin and flower in myriad forms, then rose, — to support a swampy forest dense enough to bar the sunlight from its spongy floor where the first land creatures, primitive and strange, slithered and crawled about.

Much later, the giant lizard slipped quietly along a shallow shore while overhead its distant cousin, the flying reptile, clung to rocky heights and swooped in graceful glider-turns above. Then once more, drained of sea, this land waited while progenitors of modern forms multiplied and flourished on the western plains.

Proof of this that went before lies buried deeply beneath the ground and only the drillers bit can bring pieces of the ancient sea bottom and fragments of shaley rock and thin coal seams,— the forest's residue.

Next, over the land was felt the shiver of the icy blasts that brought a covering of snow and ice, so deep, so heavy, that eventually it moved, ground down the hills and filled the valleys, pushing southward and westward beyond the future borders of Iowa and into the region to be called Kansas and Nebraska. Then, finally, it stopped while warming winds released the ice-locked waters to send them rushing out across the landscape, tumbling massive boulders, sand, and gravel along the courses until the torrents quieted and dropped their burdens in the new-cut valleys. The winds whipped across the drying floodplains picking up the fine-ground dust and, dropping it on the countryside, covered the rocks and clay left by the glacier, thus furnishing rich soil for grasses and later for the fields of grain.

Again and again, this story was repeated but the icy grip grew weaker in succeeding ages and after each chilly visit the weather warmed and animals of bizarre and curious shape came back to roam the landscape. Where earlier the ice had pushed to distant points it now stopped short at the east edge of what would one day be Cherokee. And from this joint the front extended southward where, at a few miles distance, it left a giant red quartzite boulder picked up somewhere to the north, and along the valley it became a landmark, — Pilot Rock. And northwestward, too, the icy border stood where, as the melting waters flowed along its face the older sediments were cut away until a valley had been started which, deepening and widening as the years went by, remains until today and we call it — Mill Creek. And in the gravel beds left along its course were scattered remains of those who dared live near the frigid blanket,—the cold-loving caribou, muskoxen, and mammoth, whose bones now are found in gravel pits throughout this area.

Once more the ice returned but this time stood farther to the east where it finally melted and dropped its untold tons of ground-up countryside leaving much of it heaped up in ridges and hillocks, building natural dams and basins which today are lakes called—Black Hawk, Storm, and Silver.

But now, the ice had nearly left the land and the animals returned, some fewer in number and some for the last time. The lumbering mammoth searched along the marshy river bank for tender shoots and leaves while long-horned bison browsed with caribou not far away. As the years grew warmer, there came herds of horses grazing on lush prairie grasses, camels, large-antlered moose and even the giant ground sloth called this their home while the great predatory cats watched all with hungry eye.

Now, most of these were gone and the land awaited, expectantly, the first footsteps of another creature, new and different from any that had gone before. This was Man, who came with sharp-tipped shaft of wood in hand, seeking out by native cunning rather than by force alone, the animals which were his prey. Evidence of his

visits now remains where, carelessly or by accident, he dropped the stony tools whereby he killed his game and prepared the flesh for food or tanned the hide or shaped the bone for covering and implement. His temporary firepits now come to light in creek and river banks where, for millenia, they have lain hidden.

How long he roamed this country and what his appearance may have been is slowly being learned. That he had no permanent home must surely be the case. Driven by hunger, he followed the bison and the deer, roaming as they roamed, stopping when they stopped. Fashioner of tools, provided and defender he was, constantly watchful, ready for game or for fight; traveling in small groups which could most easily go undetected and also permit him to find sufficient food for all. His mate searched for berries, fruit, and nuts in season, bore the children, prepared the kill, cooked the meat, tanned the hide, — and followed.

Ages passed and from somewhere came startling new ideas—strange looking seeds and the practice of dropping them in holes gouged in the ground with a sharpened stick — and then returning when the plants bore seeds to harvest and eat fully for a change. As the harvest multiplied, there came the problem of preserving the precious food against a day when want would come again. A woven bag of strong grasses may have served to hold the grain but could not resist the chisel-toothed hungry rodents who took their share and more. Then, from afar, came the idea of gathering clay and shaping it into a bowl and burning it until so hard that neither water nor rodent could destroy it.

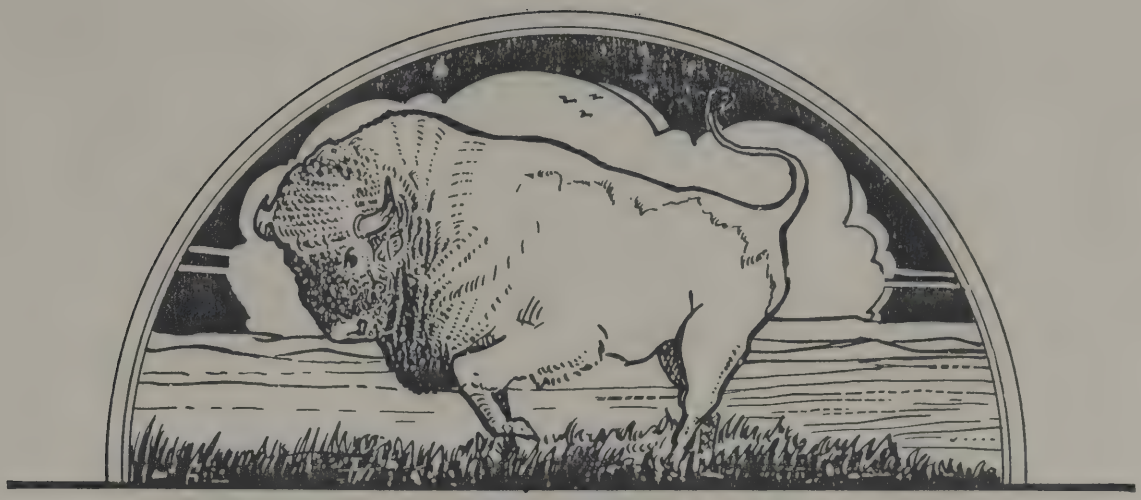
An increasing food supply permitted the family to cease its wandering and settle down in one abode for a time, at least. The temporary shelter became more strongly built and home became a place. Still the bands were small and kept to wooded spots along the streams where a few scattered homes were built. Little evidence remains in our vicinity now of these early villagers, but occasionally, a scrap of their broken pottery or arrow point is found upon a gravel bar along a modern stream. Our name for them is "Woodland", taken from the wooded land in which their eastern cousins dwelt.

More ages passed and new faces, brought new customs, new ideas from the south. The older groups gave way before the new or, joining them, were slowly intermingled until only traces of their culture were retained. These new people, in greater numbers and with unfamiliar tongue, looking for choice spots along the creeks and streams, soon found them and built their villages and chose their fields along the rich, black, valley floors. And since these villages were first described along Mill Creek we have called them by that name.

Their homes were not mere leanto shelters but of upright timber with saplings and grasses interlaced and chinked with clay brought from a nearby bank.
Inside, the low fire served for heat, light and primitive stove while the winding smoke rose lazily upward through a sooty opening in the roof. Along the sides an earth-packed ledge served for bench and bed. Here and there in the floor deep pits were dug where the winter's supply of grain and seed were stored, and where, as the walls began to weaken and crumble, the refuse was dumped until the hole was filled, leaving a treasurer for the achaeologist who carefully with brush and trowel sweeps away the dust of centuries to recreate the unknown past.

Scattered among the ruins of the villages are the artifacts which show that stonetipped arrows once were used, and sharp flints, jaspers, cherts, and chalcedonys were chipped into scrapers, knives, and punches to work the raw leather and bone and wood. The flaking tools or deer antler, bone awls, skewers, and knives, the ornaments of shell, bone and clay are found where some hand dropped them, to intermingle with the ashes and charcoal of unnumbered fires. Discarded bones of deer, bison, and countless smaller mammals, turtle, birds, and shells of river clams, charred corn, beans, squash, walnut shells, and wild grass seeds give mute evidence of an increased diet. Smoothly worn mortars and grinding stones made from rocks found along the streams, and hoes fashioned from the bison's well-suited shoulder blade show a dependency on agriculture, as well as game. The potter who fashioned her ware with skill and care little knew that as she traced her patterns in the soft clay she left a record whereby, long afterward, men would know and recognize her people and understand their relationship to other groups and glimpse a hazy outline of their history.

At some villages, occupied for centuries perhaps, the detrital of living accumulated to depths of ten feet or more and toward the end of its occupation became a low mound, remaining until today. When later tribes, dispossessed from homes farther to the east by light-skinned invaders from across the sea, came drifting westward into these valleys, the Mill Creek people had already deserted these villages. Or had they? Were they perhaps disrupted by the first pulsation of discontent which rippled westward in advance of the new migrant who brought the horse, steel and musket to back his law? He traded with the dark-skinned natives who carried the metal implements and glassy, colored beads to the west. There, in increased power and numbers, they need not hide their camps among the trees but pitched them boldly, on open hilltops commanding and controlling the valley. Their horses gave them speed to kill the buffalo and, more and more, they turned from planting to the hunt, and life was easier, with tools and cooking pots that wouldn't break when dropped .But with these benefits came, as well, trouble in the form of disease which afflicted young and old, alike; war, which reduced the ranks and left the tribes easy prey to stronger groups. Finally, the villages were abondoned and within a few years the prairie hid the evidence until the sharp plow of the pioneer turned the sod and brought it back to light. The past was history and a new chapter had begun.



CHAPTER II

The Frontier

As Viewed From Cheroqui and the Vale of the Inyan Yankee.

In the preceeding pages, we have built the theater, we now set the stage.

To separate Adventurer from Settler, we propose that our pioneer period lie between March 3, 1855 and May 31, 1873. These dates mark the opening and closing of the "local" land offices at both Fort Dodge and Sioux City. More precisely, of course, the end of the frontier period did not occur at Cherokee until the permanent settlements of 1856. The preceding years were the frontier.

These 176 years cover the time from the first plausible white man, to settled occupation, and we must admit that the first twenty of these years are somewhat speculative. The year 1680, however, is not at all an unlikely date for the penetration of the French into Cherokee territory. This is surely true if expeditions up Pierre's River (later known as St. Peter or Minnesota) reached across to the falls of the Big Sioux at that time. We believe that considerable knowledge of the valley of the Little Sioux had developed not later than 1683.

In the year 1700 appreciation of the Little Sioux territory necessitated a trading post as near to our river as established navigation to the Mississippi might permit. Accordingly one was built on the Blue Earth River, some 70 miles northeast of Spirit Lake. The Blue Earth, extending to within 20 miles of the Lake of the Spirit, heads into Iowa to the east of Estherville. It flows directly north to Mankato at which point the Minnesota river approaches nearest to us.

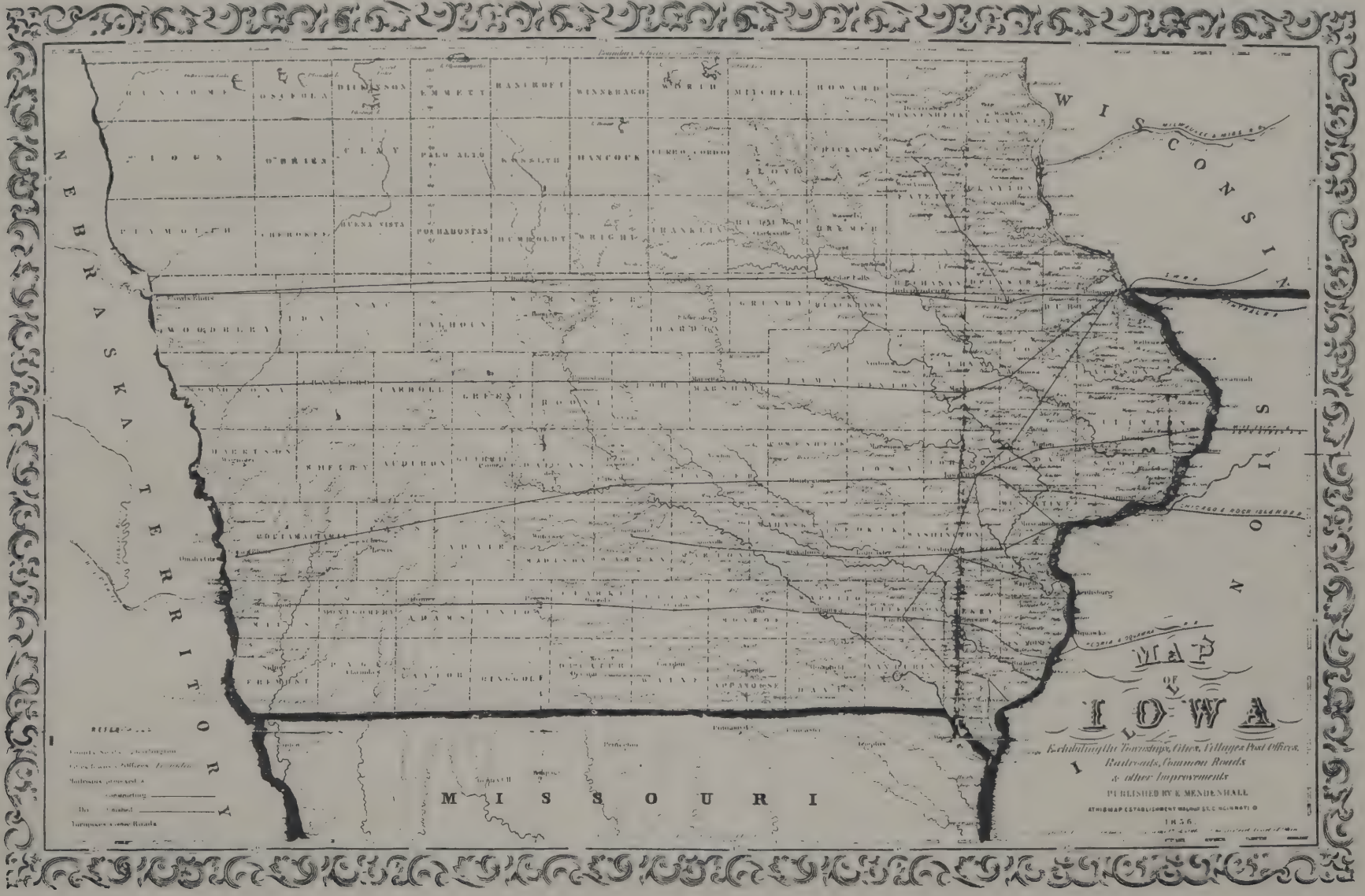
The exact location of this point was just below the mouth of a Blue Earth tributary, still shown on all modern maps as the LeSueur. This merchandising center was the enterprise of Charles Pierre Le Sueur. By this 1700 date, LeSueur's companions had accumulated an astounding geographical knowledge of the country to the south and west, including the full course of the Little Sioux.

To bring our account rapidly to the time of the Louisiana Purchase, we must mention Charles LeRaye. As a captive of the Bois Brule Sioux, he camped from December 8, 1801 to March 20, 1802 within thirty miles of the southwest corner of Cherokee County. With this we must skip to 1804 and Lewis and Clark; only to say that they passed at the "Petite Revierre dea Sioux" while interpreter Dorion described its courses even to the Iowa Great Lakes. At about this time the Captains Courageous reckoned that there were as many as forty white traders on the waters above them.

All to briefly this must serve as a distant panoramic perimeter of the earliest Cherokee scene.

We now move to a closer focus. It was the year 1854, or as the French say, "The year the American Came". This year may be considered as the settlement date for Sioux City. From 1839, however, a considerable number of French were domiciled along Perry Creek, the Floyd and the Big Sioux. One of these was L. D. Letellier, known to his friends as Dace or Dawsey. He first came up the Missouri by steamboat in 1850. On that trip they were forced to bury a cholera victim daily for each of the eight days prior to arrival at the Little Sioux.

The mouth of our stream has, from earliest times, been regarded as the beginning of the upper Missouri and the Sioux country. It was also thought of as the dividing line between sickness and health. It was the custom of the early steamers to stop at this point to undergo the sanitary measure known as "washing out the boat." They then proceeded, uncontaminated, to the upper reaches. Dawsey says they performed that rite at the same point on his trip, and thereafter had no more disease.



A Map Of Iowa Published In 1856

Letellier again came up the Missouri on a hunting trip in 1854. The objective was the heavily wooded area between Onawa and Peterson.

Through long periods the Little Sioux was resorted to by meat hunters and was long the Mecca of distant sportsmen. The Indians fired the dead grass from the upland game pastures but they may have exercised care in respect to this Little Sioux refuge. Conflagration by lightning was minimized by the lush greenery prevalent during the season of electrical storms but even so the game resources had to be extremely abundant to survive the excessive tax imposed by the heavy travel along this stream. This was the natural route from Southwest to Okoboji lake, Spirit Mound and to the Pipestone Quarries.

Indian Theology, centered on Pipestone, created in Southwestern Minnesota, an inviolate human sanctuary that was extended to all tribes. Pilgrimages reached there from as far south as Arkansas and Oklahoma. No trail to that lodestone offered fire, water, shelter, direction and sustenance so completely as did the Little iSoux.

A companion of Mr. Letellier was Clement Lamoreaux. They travelled by wagon from St. Louis. Eight days brought them to the Floyd and Letellier recites as follows; "We staid a few days to prepare ourselves to start for the Little Sioux River. It was toward the latter part of October that we started horseback, with a pack to carry our camping utensils. Upon the Floyd valley, the grass and weeds were four and five feet high. At the fork of the Floyd we had to stop on account of prairie fires. We returned and crossed the river at Galarneau. Then we started across for the Little Sioux. We arrived at the place of Smith Land. Above this place there is no habitation. Wild turkeys, deer and elk in quantity. We were about to set some traps for beavers, when three Santi Indians appeared at our camp and informed us that a large party of the Santi was coming down the river. To save our horses we lost no time and returned. At the mouth of Perry creek together, Lionnais, Bedard and myself built a large log stable to secure our horses from these horse thieves."

The dates designated for this part of the centennial book do not warrant further pursuit of Mr. Letellier, but we cannot resist the opportunity to present one more sample . . . this, in defense of the spelling in the sub-head of this chapter.

"Two farmers," says Mr. Letellier, "were killed near Sioux City. A massacre at New Ulm, also at Spirit Lake. Companies of volunteers were organized in Iowa to protect the frontier. I enlisted in one at Sioux City. Gerome White was the Captain. Chas. Rustin was First Lieutenant. I served ten months at Melburn, West Fork and CHEROQUI. At this latter place I helped build the Bastains. When this job was through we had to drill half an hour each day. The rest of the time was employed in hunting, fishing etc."

Aside from geologic consideration, some portion of this bock should bring us into more intimate acquaintance with the chief topographic feature of our terrain. That, of course, is Pilot Rock.

The word "Pilot", in the sense of a Beacon or very prominent landmark to be hailed from afar, may be correct for Nevada's 11,000 foot Pilot Knob or the equally high Pilot Peak in Utah. Here it would be a misnomer other than contemplated as a cross-road guide post.

At the distance of one mile, travelers by road or canoe would scarcely detect it. Within that distance, at a time when old haystacks were not competitive, it might have provoked sharpeyed curiosity. Be that as it may, the value of this great boulder was not at all limited by its visibility. The trails of the countryside ran directly to it and wheras it was a favorite camping ground, those trails were woven and interwoven all about it.

Except by inference, we do not know what name the Indians may have had for our rock. Often they named a waterway for same physical peculiarity along its course. It is significant, then that our river in the Sioux language became "Inyan Yankee' meaning The Woven Stone, or as they may have said it in their descriptive way "The Stream on which, midway its course, stands the Woven Stone."

Inasmuch as the very early maps call it the River of the Iowas, it would have been known to the Mahas as the "Mah'uda-waa-i-te", (small stream where the Iowas planted.) That, however, marks a creek on the Omaha reservation in northeastern Nebraska, where the Iowans were at one time resident. The Winnebagoes, who did not arrive until Pioneer times, simply adopted the modern term; "Sha-ha-ni-sha-nunc" or The Small Sioux (or Sioux Creek).

The south line of 27-90-40 is about six miles above the mouth of Silver creek and clearly marked the head of canoe navigation on that stream.

Lying mainly in this section, and extending to the east and south, lay an unusual tract of land of nearly one thousand acres that awaited the settler with a special kind of welcome. This was known as "The Weed Land." It had all been worked over, from time to time, by Indian planters, hence was devoid of heavy sod, and the red root so troublesome to the pioneer plowman. Many of the early settlers of the region used parts of this ground for their first crops. Below this, on the creek, the virgin timber was of immense size. The first loging operations, in stands of black walnut, left many stumps five feet in diameter.

From the standpoint of the savage farmer, the agricultural location left little to be desired. This Indian crop land was protected from marauders by its distance from travel routes. Sparkling waters ran the length of the gardens and offered both personal and harvest transportation to the nearly adjacent woods. That magnificent piece of timber was, in turn, concealed from the river by the topography of the creek's course. Planting here, could be made in security and comfort. The

harvest was cached in the safety of the forest against the time of departure for the fall hunt, which could be continued in the river bottoms throughout the winter as security might require. What more could the red agriculturist desire?

Incident to the foregoing it must be stated that the described situation was not entirely unique as the Little Sioux throughout history, was universally, time and time again, acclaimed by cross-state travelers as the best wooded stream between the short Mississippi tributaries in the east, to the Missouri shore. Some evidence of this may still be seen, and a notable example is the virgin timber land at Peterson, owned and faithfully preserved by Cherokee born Hortense Butler Heywood. She is also the owner and guardian of the last remaining frontier-pioneer log cabin known to these writers.

The 23rd day of July, 1851 marks the final acquisition of Indian land in Iowa. That treaty extinguished title held by four bands of the Sioux: Sisseton, Wahpeton, Mdewakanton, and the Wahpekuta. The transfer was not completed until 1852 and yet another year was allowed for the complete vacating of the country.

As a consequence Ft. Clarke (Ft. Dodge) was abandoned as a military establishment being no longer necessary. It had existed only three years as such. The year 1852 is also notable for the last intertribal conflict on Iowa soil. In that year, a band of Sacs and Foxes whipped a Sioux hunting party at Clear Lake and left sixteen of the enemy dead to bleach their bones on the prairie.

In December of 1851, the Third Iowa General Assembly, looking forward to completion of a Sioux Treaty, divided the new lands into forty-nine counties. This made one hundred in all but two years later they reduced it to ninety-nine by combining Yell with Risely to make Webster.

The basic scheme for division was to create as nearly as possible counties that would have a uniform sixteen townships. This work was done in legislative committee with Phineas M. Casady of Des Moines as chairman.

The names selected for these last counties seem to have been most carelessly adopted from any suggestion that a committee member might care to propose. In the case of our county, we can only surmise that some weary and misguided imigrant from the Great Smoky Mountains sang out "Call'er Cheorkee.' And so, Cherokee we became.

At that, it is probably no more ridiculous than was the perpetuation of the names of three Mexican war battles (Palo Alto, Cerro Gordo, Buena Vista) and the Indian princess of the eastern seaboard (Pocahontas), a visiting Hungarian, (Kossuth) a Florida brave (Osceola) and just plain Bunk (Buncombe, later Lyons.) What a wasted opportunity to accord honors where so many honors were due!

We have no measure for the immigration into Iowa for the last year of this period ending with 1855. The Federal census reveals only that the decade produced nearly 150,000 new citizens, just from New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio alone. The period 1854-56 was especially notable for an influx or almost 200,000. This was partly accountable by the ravages of cholera and drought in the east durnig 1854.

In the fiscal year ending with August 1855, the General Land Offices sold well over three million acres of Iowa land.

It is well to note that our 1856 settlement dates to within 17 years of the oldest land title in this state—the Honori grant at Montrose being confirmed by patent in 1839.

In all the foregoing fashion, the Frontier prepared for the earliest settlers, and now with the close of 1855, with a stage line in full operation to Cedar Falls (97 miles west of Dubuque), and with the steam cars running towards Iowa Falls, we are set to welcome the Pioneers of the succeeding chapter with the promise that no more than fifteen years will pass before an unpreditable New Jersey millionaire railroad builder will complete a line to their door, laying out the townsite named Blairsburg after himself.

CHAPTER III

Settlement Days

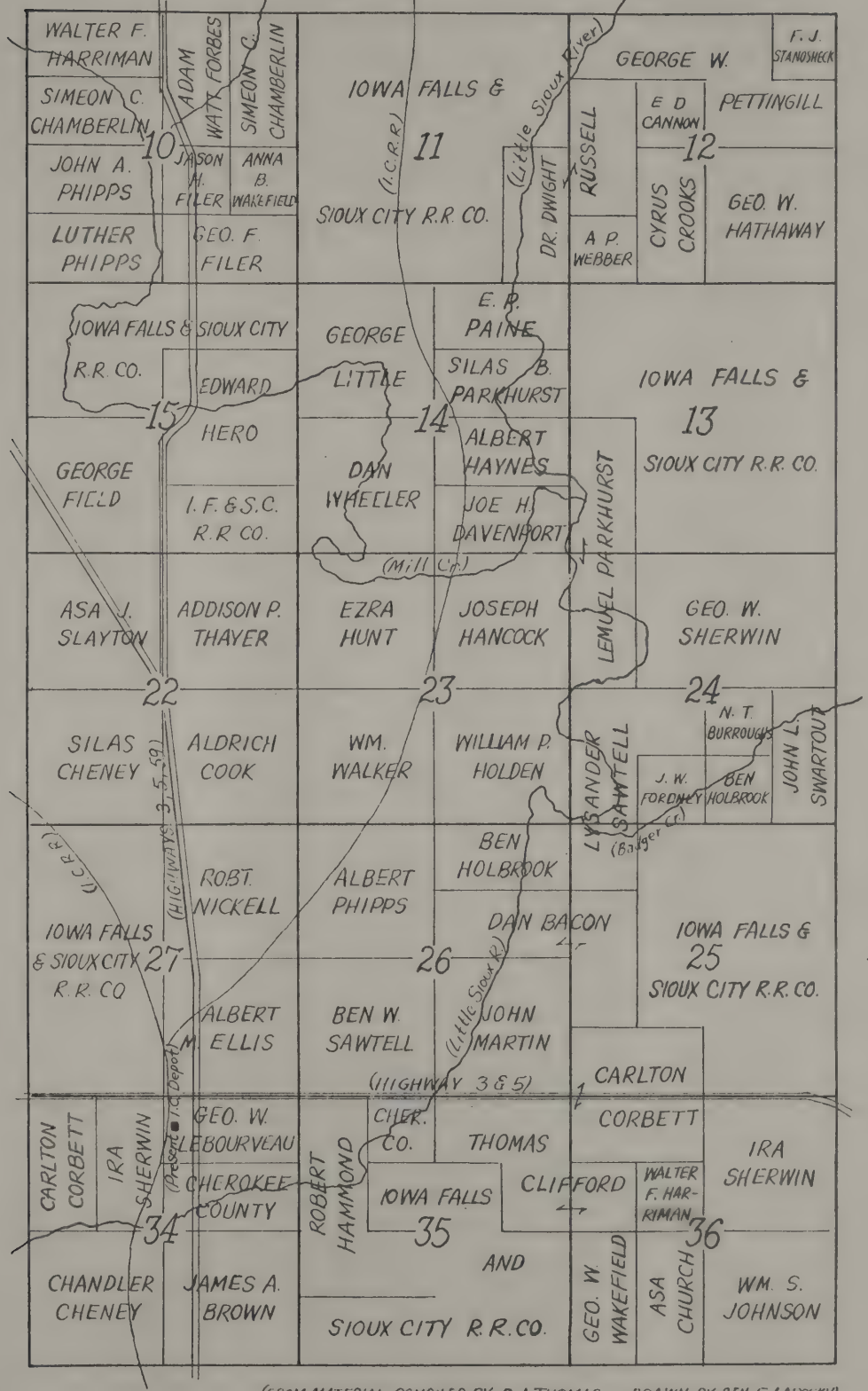
True pioneer spirit must have prevailed in the hearts and minds of the early settlers of Cherokee County during the initial years of the settling of the white man as a permanent figure within this part of northwest Iowa. For it is with a granite fortitude of the will to exist and succeed that rolling hills and prairie were vested. Hardships were severe and, no doubt, the mortality rate high, although, we find through research, many of the early whites living to confortable ages of 70 and 80 years. Perhaps these elderly ages may be attributed to the fact that the mind, body and soul were subjected to severe tests of endurance, which created an immunity that enabled them to linger on in later years of their respective lives.

While Cherokee proper, or "Blair City", was settled and initially developed by a group of New Englanders known as Milford Emigration Company, Milford, Massachusetts, it cannot be ignored that the forward agents of the company, Carlton Corbett and Lemuel Parkhurst, were guided to this area by a chance meeting with one Robert Perry at Sergeant Bluff. It appears that the Milford Emigration Co. had instructed Mr. Corbett and Mr. Parkhurst to select a settlement site somewhere on the Missouri River in the vicinity of Sioux City. Arriving in that area in March or April of 1856, they were disappointed to find that area in full process of development. Mr. Corbett continued up the Big Sioux for some distance, only to be discouraged by the absence of timber and other beneficial resources of nature, then turned back down the river where he and Mr. Parkhurst met Mr. Perry at Sergeants Bluffs. Mr. Perry was returning from an exploration of his own and had just come from the area of our subject, Cherokee County. He told Mr. Corbett and Mr. Parkhurst of the natural resources of the area, and, in quest of settlement land, they decided to immediately investigate for themselves. For some reason not explained in recorded facts, Mr. Corbett and a Mr. John Martin proceeded by foot to Cherokee County area, leaving Mr. Parkhurst at Sergeant Bluff. It may be that Mr. Parkhurst went back to Pecatonica, Ill., to bring his family from where he had left them at his sister's home, while Mr. Corbett assumed responsibility for locating those of the Emigration Company who were pressing their way from Milford, Massachusetts. This group arrived on May 11, 1856. It is well here to list those who came in the first group. They were: Dr. Dwight Russell, General Agent; George Kay, Treasurer; George W. Lebourveau, Albert Phipps, Asa J. Slayton, Benjamin W. Sawtell, Lysander Sawtell, Albert Simonds, Daniel Wheeler, Robert Hamond, Albert Haynes, James A. Brown, wife and children - George, Clara, Thomas; James Hamond, wife and children - James and Mary.

It may be well here to review the birth, function and death of the Milford Emigration Company of Milford, Massachusetts. The company was organized by a Dr. Dwight Russell and Dr. Slocum and numbered 54 members in all. Dr. Russell actually came to the county in 1856, and preempted his portion of land on behalf of the Emigration Company. However, records and maps do not show the appearance of Dr. Slocum. It is known that Dr. Russell stayed less than a year, then returned to his home in Massachusetts. And he did not set up practice in this area other perhaps than to care for a few of the colony who first came.

It was actually known officially as The Milford Western Emigration Society whose purpose was to locate lands in the unsettled west in the vicinity of Western Iowa or Dakota. These lands were to be in turn assigned to a Milford Western Joint Stock Company under which title they were to be platted and redistributed, by drawing numbers from a hat, back to members of the Society.

LANDS ACQUIRED BY PRE-EMPTION



(FROM MATERIAL COMPILED BY R.J. THOMAS — DRAWN BY BEN F. LAIDLEY)

There was also formed a company by the name of The Milford Co-partnership Company whose function was to improve the lands so located. The details of the above are not entirely clear; however, it portrays reasonably the general procedure that was followed. Upon further checking records we find that the lands were actually deeded to one Samuel W. Hayward, who was appointed sole agent apparently for that function.

Among the early Milford Colony members there were two people who preempted in the area who did not belong to the colony. They were John Martin, whom Carlton Corbett brought in from Sergeant Bluff, and one George Little, Mr. Martin's preemption date, as recorded in Cherokee County Court House, is February, 1859 and Mr. Little's is December, 1858. The first ones of the colonists, of which there were several, are dated December 10, 1859. It may well be that Mr. Martin and Mr. Little were friends who were also scouting the area together when Mr. Corbett made the former's acquaintance. Their locations, as you will note from the map, are fairly well located in the area which the advance agent, Corbett, was choosing from the Milford Colony. Judging from the spirit of the day, they were no doubt welcome and did their share of carrying and enjoying the pioneer burden.

Inasmuch as Mr. Perry is honored with being the first settler in Cherokee County, some of the details of actual arrival dates must be clarified. Mr. Perry was not a member of the Milford Colony although he did reside in Massachusetts. Mr. Perry was twenty-three when he migrated to the U. S.; his wife was only fifteen when she came from Ireland. They, with their two children who were born in Massachusetts, arrived at the Little Sioux River in June, 1856 and inasmuch as Mr. Perry had scouted the area in May and they were a unit alone, immediately built his shelter, which perhaps was a sod house rather than a log cabin. The sod house was used extensively throughout the prairie, particularly where timber growth was not handy and plentiful. His claim was in Pilot Township, Section 28. Some years later he moved west to Section 29. His was the first deed granted for land in Cherokee County, on August 5, 1856. This is according to Woodbury Conuty records.

The fact that the Federal Government closed the land office at Sioux City for a period to enable the raliroad to obtain right of way, and that Cherokee County was a part of Woodbury (by legislature in 1853) and did not become a unit "unto its own" until 1857, when it became "Cherokee County" rather than "Cherokee Civil Township", may account for the initial record as described above. The Milford Colonists had only a matter of twenty days or so to make their claims before the closing of the land office. This must have put great pressure upon them to select and stake out their respective claims of about 100 acres each, which was later divided and settled among the members.

Also not to be overlooked, is the appearace of George W. Banister, who headed a colony from Hardin County, Iowa and who landed in the present Pilot Township (first township south of Cherokee) on June 17, 1856. Among this number were the following names: George W. Banister John Moore, Charles Moore, Alfred Moore, J. T. Lane, Martin Burns, I. N. W. Mahaffay, Jacob Miller, Marvin Allison and John Banister. From this group Mr. Jacob Miller was the first to build a log cabin in the summer of 1856 at a point near Rogers Mill in Pilot Township.

Though it is factually stated in recorded history that the first log house was built by the Milford Colony in Cherokee County, the foregoing facts may lead us to believe that it was a rather close affair. At any rate, we know that there were other shelters finished - be they log cabins or sod houses - before the severe winter of 1856 and 1857, which was also the time of the Indian episodes preceeding the Spirit Lake Massacre.

An attempt has been made to locate the first few cabins in the area and some other points of interest and reference. It will be noticed that the cabins so located are not necessarily on the land of the preemption, inasmuch as cabin locations were chosen at random and for convenience no doubt, and some time before the lands were chosen, the initial action being bent upon preparing shelter for the following season.

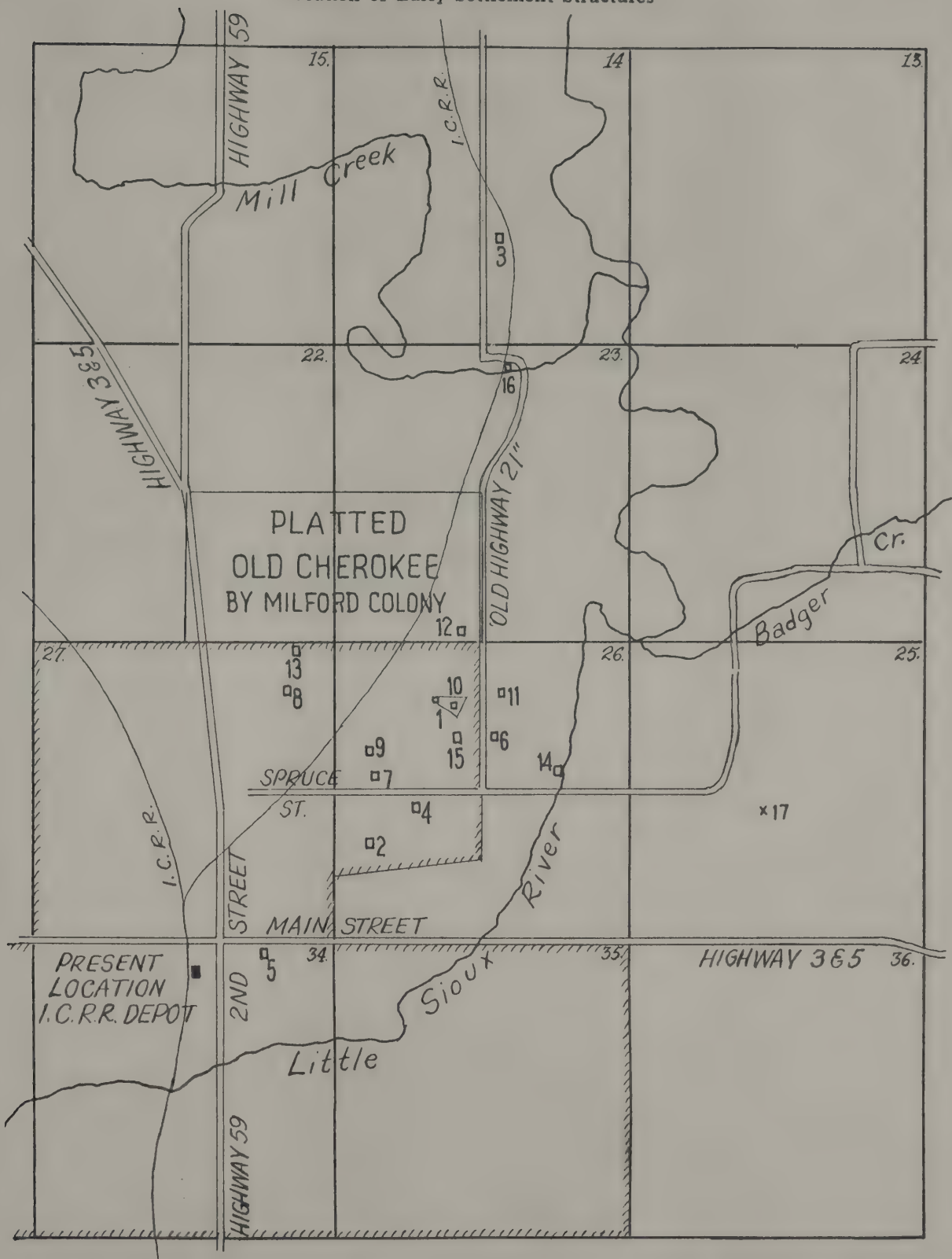
The date of "the raising" of the cabin of Mr. Brown is July 10, 1857, and "Mr. C. Cabin" is October 26, 1857. From the personal diary of Mr. James A. Brown, Mr. C may be Carlton Corbett, Thos. Clifford, Chandler Cheney, Silas Cheney or J. S. Cooke. We are inclined to believe, however, that it was that of Mr. Corbett, inasmuch as he was the first of the colonists to set foot in the area.

Progress was not easily won for not only the elements of nature harassed and plagued the white man but the red man also brought his resentment to bear against him. The Milford settlement now (1856) comprised five cabins, in which existed nine men, five women and seven children. It was within this group that the first Indian episodes which eventually led to the Spirit Lake Massacre were felt.

It appears that a party of Indians, led by one Inkpadutah, a tall, swathy, poc-marked red who was somewhat of an outlaw among his own people, traveled south along the river, passing through the settlement and portraying a rather friendly attitude. Upon arriving at Smithland (approximiately 40 miles down river) they were confronted by the settlers there, their weapons seized and they were severly agitated by not being able to pass on down river to their friends, the Omahas. With vengeance in their hearts they returned up the river to raise havoc with all whites with whom they came in contact. It seemed that the farther north they went the more severe their impositions became, and they finally committed the atrocities of the Spirit Lake Massacre.

In passing through Milford Colony they stopped at the log cabin of James A. Brown, where some of George Lebourveau's family were also

Location of Early Settlement Structures



1. Colony House Cabin
2. Wm. P. Holden Cabin
3. Lemuel Parkhurst Cabin
4. Lysander Sawtell Cabin
5. Geo. W. Lebourveau Cabin
6. Albert Phipps Cabin
7. ames A. Brown Cabin
8. Carlton Corbett Cabin
9. Geo. Brown Cabin
10. Blockhouse & Stockade
11. Ben Holbrook Cabin
12. Red Brick Schoolhouse
13. First Courthouse Square Loghouse
14. Old White Mill
15. Thomas Twiford Cabin
16. Haywards Mill
17. Witness Tree

See Explanation On Page 25

Albert Phipps House In Old Cherokee

present. This occurred during the latter part of February or early March, 1857. Mr. Brown managed to subdue their plundering efforts by his display of courage and his faith, and with the help of his wife, who prepared food from their meager rations to get them in a passive frame of mind and out of the cabin. They left without causing any extensive damage other than the shooting of an ox. Very similar activity was portrayed at the Lemuel Parkhurst cabin where they again were pacified by food. It must be recalled that this was a very severe winter, this occurring in February 1857; food supplies were very limited and with the Indians in their revengeful mood everyone was constantly under threat of ruthless atrocities and death.

Some time later, when the news of the Spirit Lake Massacre reached the settlers, it was quickly decided to abandon the settlement. Thus they scattered to places of friends or relatives at Smithland, Ashland and Onawa. However, in May of that same spring, some of the more fearless and persistent returned to put in crops, to recover and organize whatever was left. It seems that the people of Smithland, who had confronted and aggravated the Indians, meantime had visited the area and committted some plundering of their own, as the log cabins had been quite thoroughly robbed. The people slowly drifted back to reclaim lands and possessions.

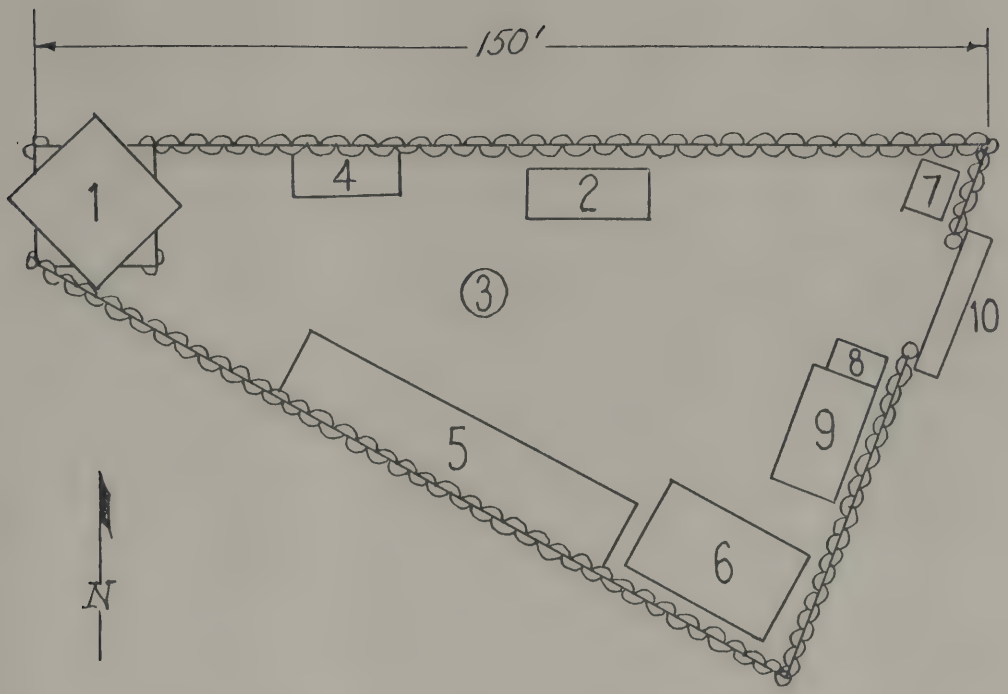
When overland travel and local activity dictated the necessity of a bridge over the Little Sioux. it was voted, in May, 1859, at the home of Silas B. Parkhurst, to levy a seven mill tax for such purpose. Thus $1,600 was procured for the first bridge of the county, it being contracted to R. M. Blain and finished in November of the same year at a point on or near th Old Fort.

In August, 1861 further trouble with the Indians erupted. One of two Indians who were attempting to steal horses was shot by one of two soldier scouts whose names were Samuel and Andrew Purcell.

This time a company of Home Guards was organized and put under the command of George W. Lebourveau as Lieutenant. The group was armed by the State. This action seemed to quell the activities of the Indians momentarily, at least, as no further serious disturbances were encountered.

While the settlement existed under the fear of the red man, in the summer of 1862, word came from Minnesota of the New Ulm Massacre and all of the settlers again left the area. It was at this time that the stockade and blockhouse, or fort, was erected by a group of soldiers under the command of Capt. Millard of Sioux City and at whose suggestion the settlement was vacated.

Only six settlers returned, and according to the census of 1863, there were but ten males and five females within the county, with the exception of the soldiers stationed at the fort. However, Carlton Corbett, who was county treasurer, with his wife, returned in the fall to collect taxes, as law required. Also, James A. Brown and family, Orange S. Wight and Robert Perry, the latter



OLD STOCKADE & BLOCKHOUSE

1 Blockhouse
2 Colony House
3 Well with oaken bucket
4 Armory or Rifle Racks
5 Horse Stalls
6 Log Cabin Barracks
7 Log Cabin Barracks
8 Whiskey House
9 Log Cabin Mess Room
10 Gate with Moat or Ditch
11 Marker along Road (Old Highway 21)

(FROM MATERIAL COMPILED BY R.J. THOMAS — DRAWN BY BEN F. LAPOSKY)

See Explanation On Page 25

two of Pilot Township, stayed during the winter of '62 and '63.

This proved to be the end of the Indian disturbances as the red man was thoroughly discouraged and subdued. It is believed that the outlaw leader, Inkpadutah, met his fate some time later in Canada. Cherokee County and "Blair City" were now free again to battle for their progress toward civilized being.

While the growth in population was slow during the period from 1862-1870 when the only communication with other settlements was on foot, horseback, or team and wagon, the community truly sprang to life following the arrival of the railroad in 1869 and 1870. The U. S. records show the tremendous impetus that gave to the steadily population, viz: 1860-58; 1870-1,967; 1880-8,240.

The beginning of the latter half of the decade 1860 to 1870, was marked by the return of the service men from the Civil War, some who immediately married and set out to build their homes and future in the prairie and woodland. It was Carlton Corbett and Rosabella Cummings who were first married in the county on November 20, 1859 by County Judge G. W. F. Sherwin, who, incidentally, built the first frame domicile in 1858. The lumber was hauled in by wagon from Sioux City.

At the present site of East Spruce bridge is the location selected by Mr. Thomas Twiford, who in 1864 built a water-powered saw mill, which was an open-air affair. No building or roof was provided and the equipment and machinery were exposed to the elements. It must have been erected and operated very near the water's edge as it is stated that nothing could be seen from a short distance to the west and all that was heard was the grunting and ripping of the saw blade as the logs were pulled back time after time to allow the saw blade to pick up cutting speed. Nonetheless, it beat the manual whip saw, which was the only wood cutting tool in the area up to this time. Through the process of several ownerships this saw mill became the Cherokee Flouring Mills and the burr stones of this establishment may be seen at the location today, although the bronze plaque, which was placed there by school children on October 19, 1926, is misisng by vandalism.

Memorandum for 1857
Memorandum
Commencing Dec - 25, 1856
For Dec
The First day of Christmas
J. A. Brown Cherokee
Cherokee Co., Iowa

Dec 16	Mr. A. J. Slayton & Mr. Nickalls, started down the river Mr. N for home, Mr. S. for Sac City. they stoped 3 or 4 miles below. Mr. S froze his feet & could go no farther (Mr. N went on his way)
T 25	Weather Cloudy but fine for the season.
F 26	A warm Snow Storm wind S E Pitched the tent in the attic
S 27	A warm sunny day but windynight
Mon 29	Bright but cold and windy
Tues 30	Fine for winter broke an axe haft and cut my foot
Wed 31	Cold & windy. Holden & two others from Sac City five days out toes frozen.
	Jaunary 1857
Sa 3	Extremely cold Wind, N. W. laid abed until noon, to keep from freezing Mr Davis left for over the river
Tues 6	Mild. Went over the river & borrowed a cat to catch Mice. Obtained some greese of Mrs Holbrook for a lamp
	February 1857
Tues 3	Pleasant. m. cold eve, Indians made their appearance broke the door and stole Mr Holdens clothes, made an attempt to recover them, they came back & took his gun & one other sat up most of the night for fear of the Indians.
Wed 4	Moderate. The Indians went over the river, Took their guns & axes killed steer & their cat. Mr. Lebourveau came in from Sac City.
Thurs 5	Moderate. Mr. Parkhurst came in after stopping on the Prairie over night. Froze his toes & thumbs. Ind's killed a steer of Joint Stock
Sun 8	Moderate. In'ds moved up stream Mr. Lebourveau & Holden informed Mr Holbrook & over the river boys. returned at 11 oclock eve
Sat 14	A mild & thawy day 2nd gang of Ind's passed through the place stole 3 prs stockings from me. Holbrooks dog died by wolf bates.
Tue 17	Cooler. W. N. E. Lemuel refused to lend me Flour Holbrook would rather not lend and so I have none.

PIONEERS: Left to right, back row: Robert Perry, A. Hynes, C. Corbett, and Silas Parkhurst; Front row ,left to right: J. A. Brown, G. W. Leborveau, A. Phipps and G. W. Banister.

Thu	Moderate W. S. rumored that the Ind's were coming down 200 strong had a meeting (to see what might be done) for the protection of lives & property, but nothing definite was done.
Fri 20	Mild W. S. E. Mr Holbrooks Horse died
Sat 21	Thaw, went with Mr Leb to the setltement above. They were keeping Sabbath
Sun 22	Thaw. The boys hunted and killed an Elk got him in Monday
Wed 25	Cool W. N. E. G helped use the cross cut saw (first attempt)

March 1857

Mon 9	Cold W. N. W. My cow died sad loss
Sun 15	Thaw. Mr. Lebourveau & Corbet returned from Sioux C after an absence of eight days
Sat 21	W. N. W. thaw. Mr. Leborveau & Holden started for Sac City. A flock of Wild Geese, first in the season
Tues 24	Mr Williams came down from the upper settlement, most starved
Wed 25	Thaw Assisted Williams in getting home with provisions
Thur 26	Thaw W. E. returned home Most beautiful prospect in travelling over the prairie. Saw two or three large tracts that would make most excellent stock or grain raising farms Four and six miles North of us
Tues 31	Cloudy but thawy. Large quantities of wild fowl have been hovering about us for several days Gueese, Ducks & Sand Hill Cranes.

April 1857

Wed 1	Cloudy Mr Lebourveau & Holden came in from Sac City. Eleven days out
Thur 2	Got his goods across the river on the ice one team left out to Storm Lake, one ox 4 miles out a snow squall
Mon 6	Mr. Lebourveau & others started for Storm Lake for their goods
Wed 8	Pleasant W. N. W. Mr Lebourveau & Holden returned, 9 oclock in eve.
Thur 9	South wind pleasant. Mr. Lebourveau went, with others to the upper settlement, 7 miles to take up Mr Davis who was found frozen to death last winter
Sat 18	Pleasant Mr Holbrook's Cow got into the mud & died
Sun 19	Cooler Mr Parkhurst ox got into the mud & died

Sat 25	Cloudy, burned the bottom over
Sun 26	Cloudy & high cold winds, 400 Indians coming down upon us. Wepickt up & fled, traveled all S night
Tues 28	Pleasant reported Indians coming into Smithland. fled in Haste
	May 1857
Mon 7	Ploughed for mine host
Thur 7	Arrived at Cherokee Very much jaded by our long & tiresome journey, cattle arrived from Sioux City. We think it best to stay Hi & preparing to start for Ashton tomorrow
Sat 9	Started for Ashton wind blowed a gale Stopped at Moore's
Thurs 14	Cold & rainy started afore Cherokee with our families stopped at Mr. Toods Smithland.
Mon 18	Arrived at Cherokee. Very much jaded by our long & tiresome journey, cattle & ourselves.
Sat 30	Been planting now several days. A variety of garden seeds, such as Corn, Potatoes, Beans, Beets, Turnips, Cabbage, Carrots, Cucumbers, Mellons, Squashes, Pumpkins & C of C. Could not have a team to plow and so we are choping it in. But must plow for potatoes
	June 1857
Sat 13	Rainy. Set my hooks at night & caught a Cat Fish weighed 6 lbs first one I ever caught
Sun 14	Pleasant, took another Fish in the PM, weighed 7 lbs (Thayer from Medway came in)
Tues 16	Rainy. Planted about an acre of Corn
Thurs 18	Helped fence against Cattle
Fri 19	Planted beans (Couldn't settle with Jt. Stock Co. Corbett & Holbrook Arbitrators
Sat 20	
Tues 30	Hayward and others started for Storm Lake Hunting & Fish
	July 1857
Sat 4	returned, Surveyers with them
Mon 6	returned Surveyers gone on, Land office open for preemptions
Tues 7	getting logs for a Cabin
Wed 8	getting logs for a Cabin
Thur 9	getting logs for a Cabin
Fri 10	raised my Cabin
Sat 11	rainy, looke out a preemption
Sat 18	Exceedingly Hot, Hoed Beans
Thur 23	Sodd Cabin
Fri 24	Moved into Cabin
Sat 25	Finished Hoeing corn Two Ellenwoods & Dr Fields came in from the East
	August 1857
Sun 2	Pleasant day . Held a meeting in C Mr Bachelor came in with cattle from Sike City
Mon 3	Co Election in Cherokee
	September 1857
Wed 9	Pleasant, Inkpadutas taken
Thur 10	Finished getting up my hay
	Octt 1857
Wed 14	Pleasant Hard Frost
Thur 15	Pleasant Severe Frost
Sun 18	First Snow Squall
Wed 21	First Hard Frost
Thur 22	Severe Frost
Mon 26	Cloudy & rainy raised C Cabin
	Nov 1857
Sat 7	A snow storm
Mon 30	Snow during the night About 6 in deep
	Dec 1857
Wed 30	A little cooler Six of our men gone to fight In
	Jan 1858
Sun 3	returned without seeing the Indians
Fri 22	Cloudy 4 of our men went to look up Indians

Thur 28	Cloudy a little one born to me in Iowa
Fri 29	Pleasant The more remarkable as being the Governor of the next month
Sat 24	Cloudy, snow squall
	Burned the Prairie over
Tues 25	Cloudy Mr Phipps & family arrived
	July 1858
Fri 2	Cloudy, Mr Killam & others arrived here 3 families
Sat 3	Pleasant, had a Picnic a fine time
Sat 10	Pleasant Finished Breaking 1 A at 4:50 per acre

The following copy taken from diary of James A. Brown apparently entered and kept Clara E. Brown, a daughter. Mr. Brown's entries and records begin on December 16, 1856 and go daily from December 25, 1856 to July 31, 1858 without interruption. For a few pages immediately following Mr. Brown's final entry there are numerous intermittent entries pertaining to finances, eastern addresses, a birth record and a prescription for a tumor. Clara E. Brown's memorandum begins on January 1, 1864 and continues but for a short time. It terminates on April 28, 1864.

It is interesting to note that all but a few entires were made with the day of the week followed by the number day ot the month. Alho, the marked conttrast to the respective contents and its thoroughness. Each reflect the background of the days thoughts and motives of their efforts. It must be born in mind that Mr. Brown did not get his family here until Monday, May 18, 1857, and up until that time was alone in his domicile which apparently was a sod house with a tent for the gable section. On Friday, July 10, 1857 he raised his cabin having spent the entire three previous days gathering logs for it.

The contents of entries made by Clara E. Brown reflect her school days and friends, and begin to shed the light of community family spirit upon the scene.

Her entries appear verbatim as follows:

Clara E. Brown **Memorandom for 1864**

Cherokee

Memorandom for 1864

Jan 1st	School has kept a week the teachers name is Mr Peck I like him first rate so far There is thirteen scholars I study Geography Arithmetic Grammar Reading & spelling
	Weather clear but cold
2d	Today in the afternoon we wrote compositions Mine was about winter Weather clear but cold. froze my ear coming home from school
8th	cold and cloudy Father killed one large hog & two little pigs & George stayed out of school part of the day to help him. today is Friday Em Mead & I were to have a dialogue to read tomarrow We have three lines written now I hardly think we will be able to finish it. Commenced studying Wells grammer today, it is one that Em had, she sent up to Clay & had it sent down she says I may study it this term & then if father wants to buy it she will sell.
9th	pleasant but not very warm
	No compositions today, But the school master & George Filer spoke peaces
12 Tues	very pleasant was out bare headed nearly all noon
	Father went after a load of wood this afternon & came down to the school house after George to go & help him give us quite a Sleigh ride
Thurs 14	Pleasant. Little Ella was just three months old today.
	Filer left off going to school this afternoon
Sat 16th	cloudy & windy, but not very cold
	Two soldiers just started from here that stayed here all night.
	(16 went through here)
Mon 18	Pleasant, George caught a wolf this morning with a Strychnine bate.
Wed 20	Pleasant. Addie Phipps came up here this evening
	to write our dialogue we finished it & had a nice time afterward
Sun 24	Very warm but cloudy, thawed so that the hills are all black again & its all muddy round the door The first day of September 1861. There came a grete gale from the North West which unroffed half, of the houses in Cherokee our among them & smashed Fathers Wagon box to peaces it was two weeks before the roof was on again. during this time we lived with Mr & Mrs Sawtell.
	Cherokee **February** **1864**
Wednes 3d	Thawed, but windy. I am fourteen years old today, 8 of these years have been passed in Cherokee, during that time we have run away from the Indians twice. The first time was the winter after we got here in 1858. it was reported that 400

Indians were coming down upon us. We fled to Ashton and while there learning that the report was false we run back again. The second time was little over a year ago now the last day of August 1862 We heard of the massacre at Minnesota and fearing the Indians yould be down here we run again to Onawa this time a place about 2 miles south of the place we went to before, Stayed there about 2 months & then the excitement haveing subsided, we come back again & here we are & likely to remain here.
There has been one Indian killed in Cherokee, that was nearly three years ago he was shot in the night in the very act of Stealing a horse

Sat 6 Very Pleasant. Stayed at home from School this afternoon to finish my new dress to wear up to Peterson to marrow

Sun 7th Went up to Peterson today Quite a colony of us George myself Addie Phipps three soldiers & the School master. had a very pleasant ride except that the wind blew rather cool & a more Pleasant meeting after we got there
The minister though unwell preached a very nice Sermon (I thought) from the first verse of the Lords prayer "Thy Kingdom Come" & after the Sermon he made a collection of Seventeen dollars for foreign missionaries

Tues 9th Very Pleasant George went up to Peterson this morning to get some corn ground

Wednes 10 Thaw Wind blew very hard from the South
George got back from Peterson this evening without any meal the mill was out of order & he could not get it ground

Thur 11 Very Pleasant. Thaw Had a Spelling school this morning The first spelling school we have had since winter before last. but I couldn't get interested & so I didnt have a very pleasant time. But the other girls seemed to enjoy it first rate

Sun 14 Thaw in the forenoon but windy & froze in the afternoon Ella is 4 months old today She isnt as cross as she was

Mon 15 Extremely cold & windy We couldnt keep warm setting up this evening so we went off to bed

Fri 19 Pleasant Thawed a little. We went down on the river this evening to slide & had a Splendid time I got a pair of skates on but I couldn't go because they were too large

Sat 20 Pleasant thawed a good deal today we are thinking of going down on the ice this evening again but the wind is rising & it is some cloudy so we thought we would stay home. We are nearly out of provisions father got some rice& a little meal down camp he will have to go to mill pretty soon

Mon 22 Very warm for winter We had the door open part of the day & Ida has been running out door barefoot Harison Mead came home yesterday on a furlough & Em Addie & Mary have gone home to see him So our school is quite small this week. Mr Snyder came down from Peterson today he was calculating to come this evening again but the wind is rising & it is some cloudy so we though w down the week we went up there to meeting But was taken sick with typhoid fever & has just got well enough to get home. he didn't feel very well so he didnt Preach here he took dinner at Mr Phipps & went on down to Mr Perrys Mr. Snyder has been through here five times now & has not Preached but once & that was the first time he came up There has been some reason every time

Fri 26th Very Mild & Pleasant Ducks & Geese are flying over
I guess this winter is ended

Sat 27th Cloudy & Colder than it has been lately, though none to cold for winter weather Wind blew very hard all day & night from the N W Froze all day.
Father went up to Obrien today & bought another horse of Tiffey so now we have three horses

Mon 29th Pleasant Thawed a little in the afternoon,
We had another nice time on the pond by the school house to night I expect it will be our last on ice

Cherokee **March** **1864**

Pleasant. Thawed a little all day. Addie & Mary Mead have come back to go to school but Em has gone over to Sioux City with her Brother Harrison, Solomon has left off going to school now, & another sold er has just commenced.

Thurs 3d Very windy all day blowed very hard from the south in the forenoon & from the NW in the afternoon & through the nite March winds I guess by the looks of the fires Marching over the Prairies

Sat 5 Pleasant. school has only one more week to keep.
I shall be very sorry when its done

Tues 8 Rainy. the snow is all gone again (all that fell yesterday) Our red cow had a little bossy this morning so I guess we wont have to buy milk now

Sat 12	Cloudy, more snow. Our school is finished and I am very sorry. I have enjoyed myself and liked the school this winter as well as any other winter since we have been here and perhaps better
Mon 14	Cold and windy. Went to a debating society to night, and beginning but I hope not the end of any such things in Cherokee. The debate was on a slavery question. Had some very nice speeches on both sides
Wednes 16	Pleasant. Ella is all right again today. I had a nice time riding horseback to thresh out wheat George caught a beaver
Tues 22	Pleasant, Father started to mill this morning to Sac City. Tommy went with him. I went visiting this afternoon
Fri 25	Pleasant Heard that Mr. Mead came down after Adie & Mary today but Emeline will stay a while linger. Father & Tommy got back tonight

Cherokee **April** **1864**

Fri 1st	Cloudy, some snow but mild Went fishing this afternoon and none bit, guess it is too early for them
Tues 5	Very Pleasant. The whole of the Brown family except mother, and Emeline went down to Mr. Wights today
Tues 19	Pleasant Father commenced his spring work today by sowing some wheat
Thurs 21	Pleasant Father found Beauty & May today in the mud on the Railroad stream May is very weak, But we have some hope of her getting well again
Friday 22	Pleasant Beauty is getting worse
Saturday 23	Pleasant Beauty died today she has not been on her feet since she was got out of the mud & today she bloated and died May is doing finely

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The following entries are found in the final few pages of the diary of James A. Brown. Some fo them are illegible from age and Clara E. seems to have practiced her penmanship rather fluently through out the pages. Also, the entries were not made in chronological order, nor was the handwriting style consistent, some being in pen and some being in pencil. However, it is evident that it is from the hand of Mr. Brown.

Consequently the entries have been rearranged as conveniently as possible in the following manner:

Jan 27th 1857	Mr Holden began to assist in taking care of the Joint Stock cattle
Jan 29, 1857	Got of Joint Stock Co 90 lbs Hide — 27 lbs Tallow ¾ bush Salt — 2 lbs Tongue 2 lbs Heart & 269 lbs Beef 310
	1½ days work on raft
	Borrowed 13 lbs Flour of G. W. Lebourveau
	Borrowed of Mrs Parkhurst 5 lbs Flour
Feb 7th 1859	loaned 48 ½ lbs meal to Mr Bachelor
	swaped to Mr Bachelor 1 pig weight 65 for (?) in Sept next
Dec 25 1860	27 ½ lbs of beef of Silas Parkhurst 4 ¾ per lb $1.28
Dec 5th 1862	On settlement this day with G. W. Lebourveau There was due me J A. B. 340 And from S. B. Parkhurst 720

The following copied verbatim from diary of James A Brown and is found on the few pages at the end of Mr. Brown's daily entries which end on July 31, 1858, and before Clara E. Brown's entries which begin dated January 1st, 1864. These entries are intermittent, some in pen some in pencil and a few are undated. They have been arranged insofar as possible in the manner as they appear, although a few changes were necessary where some of the penmanship is superimposed on the pencil copy.

Work for G W Lebourveau
boy 2 days driving oxen
3 days at planting

Watching Cattle	$3.00
Jan 1860, Cheorkee	
To Breaking 2 acres	8.00
one Bush Beans, Banister	$2.50
Mending boots	:25
One bag of flour	6.00

Published Cherokee, Iowa, Monday, January 21, Under the heading:

"Name Was Here Ahead of Town"

In writing from his home at Arkport, New York, to Dr. P. B. Cleaves, Worshipful Master of Speculative Lodge No. 307 A. F. & A. M. William McKay, Second Master of Speculative, gives some

early day history of Cherokee and it surroundings that should be preserved. Mr. McKay, who for six years had made his home at Wausau, writes of his coming to Cherokee in the following entertaining paragraphs of his letter.

"In the fall of 1868 some business men of Wausau went out to Iowa and bought land north of Storm Lake and also in Sac County. When they got back they gave glowing accounts of the thousands of acres of prairie land that could be bought for a few dollars per acre. This set me to thinking so that in the spring of 1869, with two others, went to Sac County and looked the country over. They bought land on the Cedar and Boyer. They were men of means and bought for speculation, not intending to live in Iowa. But I chose to invest in Buena Vista and Cherokee Counties, as men were working at grading the railroad bed at Alta and a few other places along the route.

"I thought perhaps the road would be finished some day. About the first of June the men that bought land in Sac County and myself hired the man, Charles Wilson, county surveyer, whom we engaged to show us Sac County land, to take us up through Buena Vista and Cherokee Counties. He had the only team and democrat wagon we could hire in the village, there were only a dozen houses in Sac City then. He was willing enough to show us Sac County land at four dollars per day or trip, but when it came to go beyond his county he wanted five dollars and found per day. He was loyal to his own county, good, honest man. I presume he has passed in his checks long ago. We hired him to take us anywhere we wanted to go. We picked up another Wisconsin man who came out to look the country over and invest in land, if he found a section to suit him, so there were four of us to defray expenses. One morning about sunrise we started after leaving Allen's farm about a mile beyond the village. There was not a house nor hut in sight, east, west or north, until we came to the west end of Storm Lake, where a Mr. Harrison had a house and a few acres of prairie broken. We ate our noonday lunch, which we had with us, on the lake, which with its surrounding scenery we all admired very much. Some of the men who had seen the beautiful four lakes at Madison, Wis. said that this lake set in such vast, unbroken prairie was a jewel. After the horses finished eating we started for Cherokee. We of the Badger State thought Cherokee was a good sized village. The driver kept mum. Between the lake and bluffs overlooking the little Sioux River we saw only one house, and away to the north and southwest black streaks here and there indicating where some homesteader had plowed on his claim. As we reached the brow of the hill, overlooking the Sioux Valley, the country to the west as well as the high rolling prairie we passed over was quite a contrast to the low lying prairie of Calhoun and eastern Sac Counties. The driver came to a stop before starting down the hill so as to give us a chance to take in the scenery for a few moments. We all got out of the rig, some stretched themselves on the grass, while one of the men who had a field glass was walking along the edge of the hill taking in the landscape, and acting as if he was looking for some particular object. Finally he came over to the driver, who was sitting on the grass with the rest of us, with the quiry, — "In what direction from here is Cherokee? I have been scanning up and down the valley and find nothing that looks like a village." He said there was a square building on a high bench, he judged a mile and a half away, and wanted to know if that was the hotel, a red painted house, and a wooden building nearer this way. The driver informed him there was no village, and no hotel in Cherokee. The square building he was looking at was the Court House. What he took for a red painted building was a brick school house, the only brick building in five counties. The other building was the Fort, as he called it, which we afterwards found was a block house and stockade. As it was near sundown when we stopped, distant objects became indistinct. As the driver got in the rig he told us that we had better walk down the hill as his harness was old and something might break. We were willing to do this as we found out the hill was steeper and longer than it looked from the top. When we reached the flat the road led through a grove of big cottonwoods near the river, so that by the time we crossed a rickety wooden bridge it was dark and night and we could shift for ourselves.

In the meantime, two strapping boys came running down from somewhere and began to help unhitch and unharness the team. To be left in the dark in a strange place on the frontier

FIRST WHITE CHILD BORN IN COUNTY: Ida M. Brown was the first white child born in Cherokee County — January 18, 1858.

was not very pleasant situation, but we were not from Beacon Hill nor Murray Hill, but from the wilds of Wisconsin, inured to hardships. The others, as well as myself, had met conditions that were harder to overcome than these before us. We did not stand around very long but struck out in the direction of a dim light, which one of us discovered not very far away. Before we reached the place where the light was we met the man of the house. We asked for a night's lodging and something to eat. He told us we could get something to eat, the house was full but that he never turned anyone away in need of shelter. After being shown where to wash it was not long before we were asked to go to the dining room, where we found plenty of bread and butter, cold meat and strong tea. About ten o'clock we were shown a place to sleep. Well, I had slept many a time in a worse bed. Early the next morning everyone was up and doing. After breakfast we took a walk up the road to the fort. We found a strong, well built block house of hewn logs. It must have required a great deal of labor to build the stockade, which was of logs nine or ten feet high, set in the ground at least three feet, close together, The upper story had loop holes in it. There was some one living in it then. It was the first real blockhouse any of us had ever seen. This, my first night in Cherokee, will be long remembered. We found that Mr. Phipps and his good wife were natives of Massachusetts, shrewd Yankees, but kindly and accommodating. After settling our bills and learning all we could about the country, we started down the river to Correctionville, where we took dinner. The others wanted to go back to Sac City by Ida Grove but I wanted to go to Sioux City, so waited at Correctionville until the mail carrier came along, he was to be there at 4 p.m. but it was sundown before he came. I settled for my share of expenses the same as if I had gone through to Sac City. These men, all of them, were fine, sociable company high up in Masonary. I regretted very much to part with them but I wanted to go to the United Sates Land Office, which was then in Sioux City, to get plats of land which were subject to cash entry as I did not care to take up a homestead claim. I intended to go back to Wisconsin as soon as I could find a piece of land not too far from a railroad. Well, the stage coach was a buckboard drawn by an old white horse, the driver a Scandinavian. We got to Sioux City at two o'clock in the morning. Kelly's Hotel, being full, we slept on the dining room floor. The next day got 7 or 8 plats, went up the Floyd Valley to where the railroad right-of-way turned east, stopped over night at a newcomer's place, walked through to Cherokee, and in a few days got County Surveyor, J. H. Davenport, to go to show me land marked on my plat in Cherokee.

"After many trips over the prairie and to Sioux City, bought two hundred forty acres in Buena Vista and two eighties in Cherokee County. On some of this land I had to file contests as speculators had covered the land with fictitious entries. So it took a long time to secure good title. I put up at Mr. Phipps almost all of the time while in Cherokee the summer of '69 and '70. Got acquainted with other landseekers, among them Myron E. Hinkley, N. T. Burroughs and L. E. Scofield, who, with myself, roamed over the prairies many a day. In summer of 1870, I hired sixty acres broken; in 1871, forty acres, at $5.00 per acre; in 1872 had eighty-eight acres in wheat. Got little or nothing. Grasshoppers in '73 and '74. So it got to be pretty hard sledding. I cannot help but reflect on the hardship and privation endured by many of the early settlers, scattered over the broad prairies, when it took eighty-five to ninety bushels of corn in the ear to buy a ton of Fort Dodge coal. Being single at the time I fared better than many others, but the big roll of greenbacks I brought from Wisconsin looked as if an elephant had stepped on it. Yet it gives me pleasure when I look back and note the many kindnesses shown me and mine by the good people of Cherokee during the ten years we lived there.

"You wanted to know something about my family. Well on March 31, 1874 I married Phebie J. Faulkner, a teacher in the graded school in Cherokee Village, at the home of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. D. Gates, about four miles west of Cherokee. My wife was born in South Dansville, New York November 25th, 1846, and died on May 1st, 1917, at our home in Burns, N. Y. To us were born three sons and three daughters. Now there are six grandsons, six granddaughters, and one great granddaughter. My eldest son, Hugh, born in Cherokee, lived a number of years in the South."

The folowing is the forepart of a letter written by Mrs. N. T. Burroughs (Addie Phipps) on October 12, 1917. She came with her family with the original Milford Western Emigration Society.

"Dear Mrs. C. A. Stiles: Your letter came yesterday and found us well and busy as we can be. Every one seems to be so anxious to do their bit for the common cause.

"Yes, I am very much interested in all that concerns Cherokee. My heart was almost broken when they sold the old Fort and allowed it to be taken down and moved away. I may be one of the few left who saw it built and knew the fine lot of soldiers stationed there. The stockade really covered quite a large tract of ground and was very complete in its way. I was very proud of it and we used to have wonderful parties there ni the winters. (Pioneer parties but very enjoyable just the same.)

"But this is past history only remembered or known of by a very few. I doubt if very many knew what a number of buildings were enclosed in the stockade. Officers quarters, Mess house, Guard house, a very nice well an old oaken bucket, and many other buildings beside the Block house, the remnants of which are still to be seen. I think it is likely the race it was erected to protect whites from — gone — never to be returned. I thought it should be preserved but I seemed to be alone at that time. It was the Fountain house grounds. People were too busy."

Milford Western Emigration Joint Stock Co

Known all Men by These Presents that we, Dwight Russell, Thomas Clifford, Albert Phipps, George W. Lebourveau, James A. Brown, Perly P. Field, Julius M. Jones, Robert Hammond, George Cay, Albert Haynes, Abial Hayman, members of the Milford Western Emigration Society so called, are severally holden and stand firmly bound and obliged unto the Milford Western Emigration Joint Stock Company, the members therefore, their heirs, executors, administrators or assigns each in the full sum of One Thousand Dollars to be paid unto the said Milford Wester Emigration Joint Stock Company, their agent or members thereof, their heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns. To which payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, severally and firmly by these presents.

Dated this 1st day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

The condition of this obligation is such that whereas, the members of the Milford Western Emigration Society aforsaid, propose the settlement and occupancy of land in Iowa or other Western State or Territory and further propose severally to give and release to the Milford West ern Joint Stock Company, all their right and interest in and to lands now first by the members of said Society to be located with the exception of ninety-four acres, which each member of the said society is to hold for himself in his own right, but which are to be located and arranged according to a plan adopted by the said Milford Western Emigration Society, viz: Two hundred or more acres to be laid out in a square to be divided into half-acre lots and numbered, around this square, lots containing ten acres each and numbered to correspond with the number of all who hold claims in the Milford Western Emigration Society. Lots containing eighty acres each corresponding in number with the ten acre lots to surround the whole to be numbered also. Each member of the Milford Western Emigration Society is to receive in the division eight half acre lots, one ten acre lot, and one eighty acre lot, these to be drawn by ballot.

Now, therefore, if the aforesaid individuals shall give, release and quit claim their right and interest in lands by them to be holden as aforesaid, with the exception above made, unto the said Milford Western Emigration Joint Stock Company, their agent or members thereof, (whenever the same is demanded by them) their heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, and faithfully adhere to the proposition and conditions above specified ,then the above written obligation shall be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of:

Thomas Clifford
Dwight Russell
Albert Haynes
Albert Phipps
George W Lebourveau
Daniel Wheeler
Wiliam P. Holden
E. H. Hero
Silas Cheney
Daniel Bacon
J. S. Cooke
Albert M. Ellis
Benjamin Holbrook
Robert Schell
Silas B. Parkhurst
James A. Brown
Perly P. Field
Julius M. Jones
Robert Hammond
George Cay
Albert Haynes
Abial Hayman
Albert Simonds
Lysander Sawtell
Asa J. Slayton
Samuel Parkhurst
Carlton Corbett
John Martin
B. W. Sawtell
Chandler Cheney

Explanation of Sketches On Pages 12, 14 and 16

And now a note of explanation regarding the sketches which accompany this section of the booklet.

Meticulous research was carried on in an attempt to accurately locate and place the early structures in their respective positions. They were not placed and plotted through use of any one reference alone, but checked with as many as possible and in no case less than two and most with three or four. Although it is difficult to plot a point when only a description such as the following is found, "a few rods northwest" or "a half mile south", it is felt that by the guidance of several such descriptions and beginning at one or two definitely known points that the results bear out a respectable degree of accuracy.

It must also be born in mind that when the very first settlers and preemptors arrived they had but a very short time to prepare shelter and larder for the immediate winter season even though they initially quartered in the "colony house", which was established for that purpose. It is known that many of them, in order to provide rooms for those members enroute from Milford, Massachusetts, built sod houses to, at least, tide them over the winter and create room in the colony house. Consequently, some of these may have changed their location during the process of transfer from sod house to log cabin.

There is a difference between a "homestead" and "preemption". A preemption is the process of transfer of title by outright purchase of undeveloped government owned land. A homestead is the process of acquistion of undeveloped government owned land by residing upon and improving by breaking the prairie [illegible]

dwelling and buildings as stipulated by the government and at the end of a given period of time a clear tittle of ownership is passed by the government to the occupant. In contrast, a preemptor may acquire land without ever having seen that which is purchased.

There are a few homsteaders on the sketch which are located in the outlying areas or border of the map and not within the confines of the colony area. Some of these were family members of the colony group and some were those who come in from various places, who knew nothing of the colony and its activities until their arrival.

While it was not possible to accurately locate all of the contents of the stockade, each in its respective place, as was done with the cabin locations, it is known that the features and accomodations did exist within the walls of the stockade.

The following facts were known when the sketch was drawn. The shape was triangular with the north side parallel to the east-west parallel. The east side, with the gateway near the northeast corner, ran in a south-westerly direction until it broke into an acute corner, thence in a northwesterly direction meeting the south side of the fort or blockhouse. The two story sqaure fort, with the top story rotated 45 degrees in relation to the lower, formed the west corner, or vertex, of the stockade triangle. The stockade was built around the colony house and additional log cabins were then constructed in each east and south corner, in addition to the blockhouse. A well with an oaken bucket was also within the confines but no doubt was dug prior to the construction of the stockade and for the accomodation of the colony house. It is reasonable to believe that upon deciding that a walled stockade was necessary for life protection, that it would be laid out to enclose whatever property the colony had at the moment. The biggest assets were no doubt the colony house and the well. Therefore, it was necessary to enclose these in the shortest possible time and it took less ime the shortest possible time and it took less time than rectangular.

The accomodations for the soldiers and their horses, such as horse stalls, barracks, rifle racks, whiskey house, etc., were installed, but were located rather at random in the sketch. The moat or ditch across the gate is significant in that it required the horses to jump as they presumably galloped through the gate. It was dug in such a manner as to prevent one on foot from sauntering into the stockade without creating undue disturbance. The marker found on the west side of old highway 21 about a quarter mile north of East Spruce corner, stands just in front of the stockade gateway.

The wall itself was constructed of split logs about 15-16 feet long and set in a trench with the flat surfaces overlapping and extending about 10 feet high from the ground surface. The overlapping flat surfaces of the logs were the only means of building a wall which did not have holes in it through which the enemy might pin down the occupants with cross fire.

Witness Tree

CHAPTER IV

Indian Raids of 1856-1857

The material on which this account is based is drawn from two sources, the story of the eventful winter of 1856 and 1857 as told by Charlotte Kirchner to her daughter and later written out for her; and a diary which was kept by Jane Bicknell, the nineteen year old daughter of one of the families living on the Little Sioux. Charlotte Kirchner in later years, after attending Grinnell College and the State University, taught school in Cherokee and was married to Dr. Moreau Sauvrigne Butler, the first doctor in Cherokee.

By the fall of 1856 a number of families had settled down along the devious course of the Little Sioux from the lakes to Correctionville. In general the cabins were widely scattered with not more than two or three in any group. These settlers realized how far they were from any source of supply, they had planted gardens, preserved the wild fruits, the grapes, plums and wild crab apples, salted fish and put down stores of nuts. They felt that they were reasonably well prepared for the long winter as in addition to the fruit and vegetables they had hogsheads of flour and sugar, kegs of molasses and supplies of ham and bacon. In October the men of the Kirchner family traveled by ox team to Cedar Falls and returned with additional supplies and also brought for the little sisters a kitten, probably the first feline resident of the frontier and a plaything much treasured by the children. The only other pet was the big dog, friendly and kind but definitely a working dog with problems of his own.

When the Kirchner brothers returned from this trip they brought with them a Mr. Bicknell, his wife and nineteen year old daughter. The Bicknells had bought the Kirchner cabin and the land they had originally taken and paid $260 for the whole. The Kirchners at once set about building a new cabin about a mile away across the river at the foot of the hills where a wonderful spring bubbled out. While this cabin was being built the Bucknells and the twelve Kirchners lived in the original cabin, fifteen persons crowded into one small cabin!

The Indians who started traveling down the valley of the Little Sioux in the late fall of 1856 belonged to the Wahpekuta Sioux, their chief was Inkpaduta or Scarlet Point, whose violence and lawlessness had resulted in expulsion from his own tribe. Charlotte Kirchner remembered him as a tall burly savage with unattractive features hideously pitted by smallpox and made even more repellent by a sullen and sinister expression. The Indians were apparently surprised at the number of settlers they found along the river and were angry at the increasing invasion of territory they considered their own hunting grounds. However at that time they did not appear to be hostile, they begged continually for

Kirchner Cabin

food which the settlers supplied with as much liberality as they dared and the Indians had to be watched to prevent any unnoticed articles from disappearing.

On November twenty-third Jane Bicknell wrote in her diary, "We have been visited by an Indian today, he came in without rapping, lit his pipe and commenced smoking. He called water "meny" and we could not make out what he wanted until he made motions." Apparently this Indian must have been traveling in advance of the main body of the group as Jane made no more mention of such visitors until the seventh of December when six came in search of food, on the ninth, seventeen Indians crowded into the small cabin leaving only when they had been given food, certainly a strain on the scanty food reserve of the settlers. That evening three returned for supper and later Jane with the three Kirchner boys walked down to their camp by the river. She said that they had tents made of cotton cloth and there were perhaps fifty Indians. Next morning there were eleven on hand to breakfast with the Bicknells, and five again on the fifteenth.

On December sixteenth Jane recorded, "The Indians were in here again this morning to get something more to eat; after they had gone an old squaw came in and I helped her to take off her blanket and she stayed here a spell and we gave her something to eat. Then she did not go and she smelt so that we could not stand it and father went over to Mr. Kirchners to have Gust come over here. He came as soon as he finished eating his breakfast, found the old squaw here, gave her something to take with her and then Gust told her to 'puche-kee" which is Indian for 'Go'. Then he put on her bonnet, and pinned her blanket around her. Father took her budget and carried it a little ways for her and then put it on her back and came back. We could hear her cry a great ways, she was so lame she could scarcely go. There have been thirty Indians been here in all today."

In the succeeding weeks there were no more Indians to fear but there was intense cold, howling blizzards and the ever present and mounting fear of starvation. On the tenth of January Mr. Waterman whose cabin was just over the O'Brien County line came to tell them that one of the settlers had become lost on the river and frozen to death. After this disheartening news Jane wrote, "Mr. Waterman's do not eat any breadstuff, we are some afraid we shall all starve to death. We have not heard from the settlers above since Gust came home. Don't know but they are all dead."

Several attempts to bring provisions from Fort Dodge were made but the cold and snow prevented and the load of food had to be abandoned. On February second Mr. Weaver, from the Sioux Rapids vicinity, and Mr. Gillet came to consult Gust Kirchner about the possibility of bringing home the supplies abandoned earlier, as they had nothing to eat but beef and frozen turnips.

The food shortage was soon to seem a relatively unimportant matter, since, on February thirteenth Mr. Shoots came to tell them that the Indians were at the Waterman house and that they were painted for war. Six of the Kirchner family came over and helped the Bicknells to bring what they could to their house. They then buried as much food as they dared and such guns and ammunition as they thought would not be missed in the towering snowdrifts. After these preparation were made there was nothing more to do but to await the arrival of the Indians. It was twenty-four hours before they saw them making camp near the river and it was not until the morning of February fifteenth that they saw nine warriors making their way over the snow toward the cabin. While they waited they had sung hymns to keep up their courage, led by Jane and her mother both of whom had sweet true voices. Now they stopped singing and waited breathlessly as the Indians drew near and they could see that they were indeed hideously painted and carried their muskets. Gust Kirchner opened the door and stepped out to meet them, as he did so the dog ran out barking fiercely, there was a shot and John Kirchner gasped, "Father! they've shot Gust." Charlotte Kirchner lived to be nearly eighty seven years old but to the end of her life she always said that she had never admired anyone as much as she did her brother when he returned to the cabin and ushered in the Indian braves as pleasantly and calmly as tho' they were welcome friends.

They at once began hunting for flour and meal, several of them left the cabin and returned with chunks of meat cut from the frozen carcass of one of the oxen which had died earlier. Up to this moment Mrs. Kirchner had been sitting in her rocking chair with the younger children clinging to her and holding the kitten on her lap under her apron. When the Indians made signs that she must cook the meat she tucked the kitten under the pillow shams and she and the two older daughters began preparing the unsavory mess. Directly the meat was thawed enough so that the blood began to run the Indians decided that it was sufficiently cooked, so it was placed on tin plates and the guests poured over it some molasses which they had found. As they ate the blood and molasses ran down over the war paint to add the last touch of horror. When they had eaten all they could they searched the cabin again and then departed taking with them the food they had found, and the body of the dog and meat from the body of the ox. They also killed a horse and a cow but did not destroy the furnishings of the cabin or take the bedding and slit the feather beds as they had done in most places. In fact the kitten slept peacefully under the pillow sham until after the unwelcome guests had departed and then emerged ready to frolic with its small mistresses. They had never thought of the possibility of harm to themselves but after the dog was shot they certainly worried about the kitten.

When the Indians had gone those in the cabin scarcely dared to credit their good fortune and waited in expectation of their return. Their relief

Kirchner House

was great the next morning when they saw that the Indians had struck camp and were traveling east along the river. Their goods were piled on travies drawn by dogs and the travies were so heavily loaded that the squaws had to help the dogs through the drifts. On that day the Kirchner men skinned the cow the Indians had killed and cut it up to save the meat, Mr. Bicknell went over to his house and brought back some of the meal which they had hidden successfully.

Next day Gust and Jacob Kirchner went toward the Mead cabin which was a couple of miles east of there to see how the family were making out, here the Indians had been much more destructive, they drove off the ponies, killed two oxen, the dog and the chickens. The Taylor family were staying at Meads and they kicked the Taylor boy into the fireplace so that he was badly burned. They also carried Mrs. Taylor and Harriet Mead down to their tents and kept them all night. The Indians would not let the two Kirchner boys go to the Mead cabin but pushed them back, threatened them with their guns too and swung their hatchets about their heads as tho' to scalp them. When the Indians had been going down the river in the fall, Gust and Jake had had shooting matches with them and had wrestled with them. The twin sons of Inkpduta, Roaring Cloud and Fire Cloud, had particularly enjoyed these games, they were about Jacob Kirchner's age and apparently felt quite friendly toward him. Now one of the twins began to push Jacob away from the older Indians and in the direction of the Kirchner cabin, he was carrying one of the guns stolen at their cabin against his body so that it was concealed and when they were among the trees he flung the gun and pushed Jacob toward home making emphatic gestures to show him that he was to go without delay. When it became evident that they could do nothing to help the Mead family Gust and Jacob Kirchner returned home. The Indians remained at Meads for two days, then went on toward the Krink cabin which was near the present site of Linn Grove. As the Krinks had been warned they fled from their home, "here the Indians killed all of the cattle, took everything they had in their house, emptied the feather beds, broke out the windows and did not leave a thing. They took five horses from Mr. Wilcox." Jane wrote this on Sunday a week after the Indians had been in the Kirchner cabin. The Wilcoxes lived near the present site of Sioux Rapids, Jane does not mention that the exposure of the flight across the snowy prairie in the bitter cold brought on an illness from which Mrs. Krink died shortly after.

A few days later Mr. Waterman came over to borrow some flour, he brought many tales of the behavior of the Indians as they came up the river, The Indians had stayed three days at the Milford Colony just north of Cherokee. There cattle and hogs were shot, doors torn from their hinges and furniture ruined. Here also they tore bedding to shreds, and ripped open the feather ticks, for some reason this particular piece of destructiveness seemed to have an especial appeal. At the Parkhurst and Brown cabins north of the Milford colony they took food and killed some of the animals but otherwise did less damage.

On the fourth of March the Gilletts and Mr. Weaver came to the Kirchner cabin in an effort

to organize a group of men to follow the Indians but this attempt failed. They had been even more destructive at the Gillett cabin than at the other places climaxing their efforts by emptying six feather beds in the woods near the cabin. It was not until the twenty eighth of March that word reached the settlers at the Long Grove that the Indians had killed forty at Spirit Lake and that a company had gone out from Fort Dodge to try to take them. "How thankful we should be," wrote Jane, "that our lives were so miraculously spared from the band of armed savages!".

To the Kirchner family it remained always a mystery that they had fared so much better than most of their neighbors. It was suggested that as the family spoke German among themselves,, the Indians might have thought them French and the Sioux Indians were supposed to have more regard for the French than for other white people. Consideration would also have to be given to the fact that there were twenty persons in the cabin, among them at least five able bodied men. Some weight, too, would have to be given to the personality of Gust Kirchner, even in his later years he was a man of fine physique, handsome features and cordial and friendly manner. He had crossed the Isthmus of Panama and spent two years in the California gold fields so that he was accustomed to deal with emergencies. He was also a very fine marksman and adept at wrestling and all the rough frontier sports. That he had made a favorable impression even on the hostile Indians would seem to be proved by the fact that they only threatened him and Jacob when they followed them to the Mead cabin and drove them away when they could have quite as easily shot them or scalped them.

The weeks that followed the departure of the Indians were difficult, the scanty stocks of food had been much reduced, the Bicknells had successfully hidden some flour and Indian meal which they shared with the Kirchner family. When conditions were at their worst they decided to open the pit where they had stored potatoes to plant in the spring and eat them only to discover that gophers had been there and there were none left. Charlotte told of her baby brother Will, only four, holding up his hand and asking "Father, may I have just one more potato, only as big as my thumb." While she and her sister Lana discussed whether it was better to eat the cup of broth and slice of bread which was their supper at once or to nibble at it and sip the broth to make it last as long as possible. She also recalled saying to her older sister Mary as she was making the soup, "Mary, put in lots of water so there'll be enough for us all." And in addition to the hunger and cold there was the continual fear that the Indians might return.

It took many weeks before the huge snow drifts had melted enough to permit the men to bring home the loads of food abandoned on the prairie near Fort Dodge and on April sixteenth Gust, Jacob and Henry Brockschink started for Cedar Falls to buy more provisions, the trip was to take them four weeks. Then just as the weather had grown more pleasant and everyone was busy with plans for gardens, boiling sap to make maple sugar and all the other pleasant spring activities word came that the Indians were indeed returning. Jane had gone over to the Kirchner cabin and was still there when Father Kirchner came and said, "Jane, go home. The Indians are up on the Des Moines River and are going to come down to kill us." Jane's diary continues "Within two hours Meads, Bicknells and Kirchners were all on our way to the Coon."

This record was written on April twenty-fifth, on the twenty-sixth she continues, "We stayed last night at Mr. Taylors. Then we came to Stormy Lake where Watermans and Williams overtook us, which made thirty-five in all, some slept under the wagons, some in the wagons, and others by the fire." Of this journey Charlotte Kirchner remembered best the immense flocks of pelicans which they saw on the lake.

This alarm proved to be a false one but the amazing thing is that it did not discourage all the settlers from returning to Long Grove. Within a few weeks all did return with the exception of the Bicknells, Mr. Bicknell was definitely not of pioneer caliber. Apparently Jane was, at least in October of 1857 she and Gust Kirchner were married and returned to live on a claim which covered most of the site of the present town of Peterson. There was never another Indian raid altho' the settlers continued to be harassed by small parties of braves. These drove off the horses, killed stray cows and otherwise annoyed the settlers. Charlotte Kirchner said that for many years they always closed the heavy shutters on the windows at night and never went anywhere unelss one of the men went with them with his gun. At the beginning of the Civil War the situation had again become so serious that a number of forts were built along the river, among them one in Peterson where at one time a company of soldiers was stationed. That marked the definite end of the Indian troubles.

CHAPTER V

Religious Life

From the time the first settlers came to Cherkee they met in groups, in homes, and wherever they could to worship and give thanks to God, each in his own way. Following is a brief history of the churches which have been in the past and are now in Cherokee.

St. Paul's Methodist Church

The history of Methodism in Cherokee began with the pioneer Circuit Rider, O. S. Wright, who arrived at Cherokee on August 18, 1858, crossing "the river on a small ferry boat near the old white mill accompanied by my wife and 18-month-old daughter. On Sunday, August 29, I preached my first sermon in Cherokee at the home of Mr. Holbrook." He organized the first Methodist class of six members in 1866 at a cabin four miles north of Cherokee. While he lived south of Cherokee in Pilot township his circuit extended from Smithland to Spirit Lake and he made his rounds on team or on foot.

In the autumn of 1870 Rev. G. M. Binks was appointed pastor at Cherokee. As a result of his work the first quarterly conference was held in the McClain hotel on January 20, 1871 and the church was organized. Several lots were purchased on the site of the present church and in the fall of 1871 a frame structure 24' by 40' by 14' high was built at a cost of $1199 and dedicated free of debt. This was the first church in Cherokee and served as a place of worship for other denominations as well as the Methodists. On its Board of Trustees was an Episcopalian and a Congregationalist and Rev. W. F. Rose, Congregational minister, directed the choir at the dedicatory service. With the growth of the congregation an addition was added in 1878 at the cost of $1500.

After ten more years of growth in town and church it became necessary to provide larger quarters. Under the pastorate of Robert Smylie the frame church was sold and on its site a beautiful brick church was built and dedicated in 1889. The Conference records of that year showed a membership of 175 at Cherokee with a Sunday

M. E. Church, Cherokee, Iowa.

The Second M. E. Church Building

School of 150.

In 1915, with a membership of 363 and a Sun-

day School of 322 it again became necessary to enlarge. Additional lots, adjoining the original were purchased and under the able pastorate of F. S. Jory the present church was built and dedicated on February 21, 1915.

Subsequent changes include the remodeling of the chancel during the pastorate of J. A. Farnham in 1942, the construction of the west entrance in 1952 and the closing of the north entrance and the remodeling of the sanctuary in 1954 under the pastorate of J. E. Feller, the present pastor. By congregational vote the name of the church was changed from "First Methodist" to "St. Paul's Methodist" in 1947.

The Conference Minutes of 1955 record a membership of 987, a Sunday School enrollment of 625, and a Woman's Society of 294 members. The ministry of music is cared for by three choirs, the Chancel, Wesley and Carol. The program for

Present Methodist Church

youth includes the Senior and Intermediate Fellowships, the Triple R's for young adults, the Sunday evening Club for Adults, the Methodist Men for men, and Family Night program for general church fellowship.

The life and work of the Church is planned and supervised by the Official Board and the four Commissions; Membership and Evangelism, Missions, Education and Finance.

The Congregational Church

The Congregational Church of Cherokee was formed in 1870. Rev. J. R. Upton one of the original seven ministers of this faith who came to Iowa at a very early date and commenced Missionary work, was the first to visit Cherokee County. The First Congregational Church of Cherokee was organized at a meeting in the old Court House on June 12, 1870, with 12 charter members. Rev. Wm. Rose was sent by the Missionary Board to take charge of the new church. In the late 1890's a new church was built and dedicated. The total cost including carpets and insurance was $16,900 and when dedicated was entirely free of debt.

The church continued to thrive for a number of years. However about 1930 it was deemed advisable to discontinue services and disband

The Congregational Church

as a congregation.

Later the church building was sold to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church and has been used by them continuously since then.

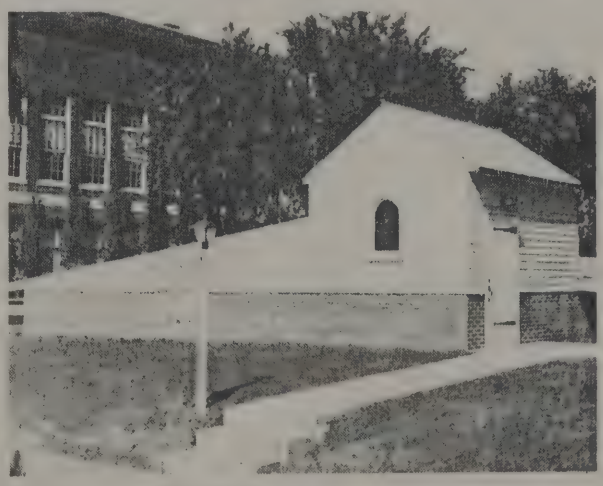
First Baptist Church

On April2, 1870 a small group met at the school house in old Cherokee to organize a Baptist Church. Dr. J. Gates was chosen first chairman, and five brethren and two sisters became the constituent members of the first church in the county.

A year later, at a meeting held in "Odd Fellows Hall" in new Cherokee, a report was received that the Iowa Falls and Sioux City Railroad Land Co. would donate a lot on which to build a church.

On May 20, 1871 at their call for a council of Recognition, two delegates from the nearest Baptist churches met with them and formally recognized the Cherokee group as a Baptist Church.

The first regular minister was Rev. A. W. Hilton who began his pastorate March 1, 1872. In June of that year the meeting place was changed



The First Baptist Church

to the court house, and here the Sunday School was organized and the Lord's supper observed for the first time. The congregation at this time numbered 24 and plans were under way for the

building of the first church.

The building was completed and the dedication service held on September 7, 1873 in connection with the Western Baptist Association which met with them that year. The church cost a little more than $2100. This building was the church home for

Old First Baptist Church

the next 16 years with very few changes. Later a baptistry and small dressing room were added.

The Young People's society of Christian Endeavor was organized in 1888 and during the same year definite plans were made for the building of a new church, to cost not less than $6,000 and to stand on the site of the old church.

This church was dedicated April 27, 1890 and served the needs of the congregation until 1944 when it was razed with the thought of construction of a new church. After worshipping in rented places for several years the basement of the new church was completed in 1951. The first service was held in the new basement on Easter Sunday, 1953 and on October 18 a service of dedication was held. The sermon of dedication was gvien by Dr. Paul Smith, Executive Secretary of the Iowa Baptist Convention of which this church is a part and through which it is affiliated with the American Baptist Convention.

Miss Elaine Marsh is the present minister.

Immaculate Conception Church

According to the records available it would seem that the first Mass in Cherokee was offered in a private home by Father McNulty of Sioux City in the fall of 1870. The first Catholic Church was built in 1873 on East Main Street on property near the present site of the Iowa Electric Light and Power Company. The first church was small and soon it became necessary to find larger quarters. For a time Holy Mass was said in Buchanan's Hall and in 1882 a church was built on the West Main Street location of the Peterson Motors Building.

In the early part of 1887 Father Reynolds purchased Block 49 in the "New Sixth Addition." In the same year Father Saunders became the first regular resident pastor of Cherokee. The parochial residence was completed in 1892 and stood on the site of the present rectory.

In 1905 the Rev. W. P. Desmond became pastor of the parish. Many improvements were made during his fourteen year administration. The church property consisted of one block to the west of the business section of the city. Father Desmond beholding the unsightly bluff in close proximity to the parochial residence conceived the idea of having it leveled and turning the ground to use. On July 14, 1907 the foundation stone of the present church was laid and on December 8, 1908 the church was dedicated by the Most Rev. P. J. Garrington, Bishop of Sioux City.

Feeling the urgent need of a Catholic School, Father Desmond invited the Servants of Mary, who were transferring from Southern Illinois, to

Immaculate Conception Church

make their new Motherhood in Cherokee. On December 8, 1908 Mount Saint Mary's was dedicated along with the new Church. The parish school was opened on September 6, 1909 in the Sister's Convent and in the fall of 1910 the High School was added. In 1916 work was begun on the present Immaculate Conception school and the parish opened their own school in the fall

of 1917. A gymnasium-auditorium was added in 1949 and in 1950 a convent and new rectory were built on the church property. At present plans are underway for extensive additions to the school.

There have been five vocations to the priesthood from the parish, one to the Jesuit Brotherhood and twenty young ladies embraced the religious life of the Convent.

The Mental Health Institute is attended by the priests of the parish, as well as the Mission of Quimby.

Father L. J. Lynch has been pastor since 1948. His Assistant is Father John Eagan.

Memorial Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Cherokee was organized on June 5, 1870 by ten persons who

First Presbyterian Church Building

were served by the Rev. A. M. Darley for the next five years. Soon a church edifice was erected on West Main Street at a cost of $4000 and was dedicated August 10, 1873. The building of frame construction, 24' by 40' was said to be "well built and elegantly furnished." In 1884 an addition 36' by 40' was added. At the dedication of this addition the name "Memorial Presbyterian Church was adopted, this being the first Church dedicated after the union of the Old and New Presbyterians in the U. S. A.

Early in 1910 work was begun on the new Church edifice at the corner of First and Willow. On September 25 of that year the corner stone was laid and the following year, on November 19, 1911 the new building was dedicated. With minor alterations it has served the needs of the Congregation to the present time.

The regular work of the Church has been supplemented by several Women's Societies; The Women's Missionary Society, The Social Union, Westminister Society, Melrose Circle, Mary McDonald Circle and the Rural Missionary Society. On January 1, 1956 these various organizations were consolidated into the nationwide Presbyterian Women's Organization. The Mariner's Club, an organization of young married couples and a Presbyterian Men's Council, a part of the

Present Presbyterian Church

National Council of Presbyterian men, add conspicuous service to the program of the Church in the home and community.

Through the years an adequate religious program has been conducted through the Church School, staffed by qualified teachers for all age groups, and Sunday evening meetings of High School Junior and Senior groups.

From the original ten members in 1870 the church has grown steadily and now reports 721 active communicants.

Rev. Carl Beckman is the present pastor.

Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints

The Cherokee Branch of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was organized in the year of 1871 by Elder Ira A. Goff. For many years this branch was known as the Pilot Rock Branch. There were 44 names on the clerk's books at this time.

The first place of worship, near the Haye's school house about seven miles south of Cherokee, served until February 16, 1902. The majority of members having moved into or near Cherokee, they rented the G.A.R. Hall, where worship was held until the spring of 1909. A chapel was bought and moved to Clark Street and was dedicated June 20, 1909 by Apostle J. W. Wight and Patriarch C. E. Butterworth.

The one hundred fiftieth conference of the district R.L.D.S. was held in the chapel in October, 1911.

The present membership is 145. Charles C. Claas is the present pastor.

The Episcopal Church

The first Episcopal service in Cherokee was held in the Presbyterian Church April 27, 1874. Service was conducted by Rev. Dr. Estabrook Rector of St. Thomas Church of Sioux City with a sermon preached by Right Rev. H. W. Lee, Bishop of the diocese of Iowa. At the close of a confirmation meeting it was decided to organize a Mission in Cherokee, the name chosen being St. John's.

The corner stone for the church, located at the corner of Euclid and Fountain Streets was laid by Rev. Wm C. Mills, rector of St. Mark's Church,

Fort Dodge on November 27, 1877.

Children of Zion Church

Records show that the Children of Zion Church was founded in Cherokee in 1880 by John Patter-

Children of Zion Church

son. They built a church at a cost of $4,000 in 1884. No further history available.

Unitarian Church

Very little history of the Unitarian Church in Cherokee is available. It is known that the Church was first organized in Cherokee in 1894. The church building was located on the corner of Second and Maple Streets. Miss Mary Safford was the first pastor.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Sixty years ago, on February 17, 1896, a group of Swedish immigrants met in the G.A.R. Hall for the purpose of organizing a Swedish Lutheran congregation. The group adopted the Constitution of the Lutheran Augustana Synod and selected as the name of their church "The Evangelical Lutheran Bethlehem Church."

After meeting at the G.A.R. Hall on alternate Sunday mornings for a period of two years, the congregation purchased a lot on the corner of Sixth and Maple and there built a church which was completed January 5, 1900.

For short periods from 1900 until 1908 and again from 1924 until 1929, the congregation at Cherokee and Marcus worshipped together. In 1920 the congregations at Cherokee and Bethany Lutheran about ten miles south, merged.

In 1930 an urgent need was felt for a larger house of worship and the building owned by the Congregational Church was rented. Later in 1939 this building was purchased by Bethlehem Lutheran.

The present membership consists of 561 communicants and 279 children. At the present time,

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

the congregation is without a pastor. Rev. C. E. Benander having accepted another call in November 1955.

First Church of Christ

The First Church of Christ was organized under the leadership of E. M. Miller of Marcus in 1896 as a result of a tent meeting in the summer of 1895. The tent was erected on the site of the present church building. On May 10, 1896 the

1985129

First Church of Christ

first Sunday School was held in the G.A.R. Hall.

On May 28, 1896 Articles of Incorporation were drawn up and signed by six members.

A. J. Marshall was the first minister of the congregation which met in the I.O.O.F. Hall until the completion of the first building known as the "Tabernacle."

In 1904 a building fund was started for the erection of a new house of worship and the new building was erected at the same place as the Tabernacle at Union and Cedar Streets. The new building was dedicated June 13, 1909. It was remodeled in 1917 and again in 1943, at which time

new furnishings were purchased. A re-dedication was held August 8, 1943. Early in 1954 an entryway was put on the front of the building.

A highlight in the history of the church was the 50th anniversary celebration on Sunday, May 26, 1946 with an all day service. Speakers were the minister Noah Hall, F. L. Voorhis, who had helped in the tent meeting which had resulted in the establishing of the congregation and W. O. Dailey who had served as Pastor for many years. Mrs. Harriet Bellman Draper was the only charter member present at this anniversary service.

The membership has grown from it's original 38 charter members to a resident membership of 284 and a Sunday School enrollment of 185.

Albert Delbridge is minister at the present time.

The Seventh Day Advensist Church

About 1920 a Mrs. Myrtle Assay, an authorized Bible worker for the Iowa Seventh-Day Adventist Conference, came to Cherokee and held a series of Bible lectures. Interest continued to grow until in 1938 Elder W. R. Archbold held a series of tent meetings and a church body was formed.

Soon the building on Union Street was purchased and remodeled into a modest confortable church edifice. Dedicatory services were held December 21, 1940 with the Union Conference president, E. H. Oswald; the Iowa Conference president, D. S. Osgood and our district minister, Elder Archbold presiding.

The first resident pastor was Elder W. R. Zima, who was succeeded in 1954 by A. H. Liebold who still fills the pulpit weekly.

The Dorcas Society and the Missionary Volunteer Society for the youth, supplement the work of the church.

There were ten charter members and at present the membership stands at 44.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Although the Missouri Synod began work in Cherokee as early as the 1890's, it was not until 1921 that the local mission was begun in Cherokee on April 6, 1922 at the home of Mr. Langkand Trinity Lutheran Church was roganized with six charter members.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Services were first held in the Swedish, later the Congregational Church. Late in 1923 the Unitarian church was purchased and formal dedication held September 14, 1924.

It was decided to become a member of the Synod on April 6, 1925 and the congregation was received into membership at the convention at Hampton, Iowa August 19, 1925.

On the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the organization of the congregation it was decided that a fund for a new church building be begun. Many obstacles had to be surmounted but on September 24, 1950 the corner stone was laid at the location of N. Roosevelt and E. Cedar and the church was dedicated on April 20, 1952.

Since the organization with six charter members the church has had a steady growth until now there are 350 adult members and 230 Sunday School pupils.

The present pastor is Rev. Kurt Klopp.

Central Church of Christ

On January 25, 1952, thirty-two persons met in one of the homes in Cherokee and as a result the Central Church of Christ came into existence.

Almost immediately this new congregation purchased the former house of worship of the Trinity

Central Church of Christ

Lutheran Church. The building has since been completely remodeled and equipped. On June 1, 1952 Elbert K. Newland was called to serve as minister and is still with the congregation.

The congregation has grown from the original number of 32 to a total of 130. They bear the sole responsibility for a family of Christian workers in the Philippines and partial responsibility for a family in Japan.

Christian Science Church

Christian Science services were first held in Cherokee county about 1900, when a Mrs. Blake came to Cherokee and held services in her home and did some healing work in Cherokee and Afton townships.

Mrs. Blake left Cherokee about 1906 and no regular services were held until 1916 when services were resumed and held regularly in the Unitarian chapel and chapel of the Duven Funeral Home.

In 1934 the Christian Science Society of Chero-

Trinity Lutheran Church

kee was organized with about 20 members. Since that time regular services have been held in the basement of the library.

In 1936 the first of biennial Christian Science lectures was delivered by Judge Greene of Chicago, in the Garfield school building.

Jehovah's Witnesses

In the fall of 1938 two of Jehovah's Witnesses moved to Aurelia preaching from house to house and in private homes. In the summer of 1949 the congregation moved to Cherokee, renting a room known as Kingdom Hall. In August 1953 the congregation moved to the present location at 225½ West Main Street, where three weekly meetings are held.

In the congregation there are at the present time twenty-three ministers.

Grace Baptist Church

In the summer of 1953 the Rev. Lauren Gerber, Home Missionary for the Conservative Baptist Association contacted two families in Cherokee in regard to starting a Conservative Baptist Church.

Soon this was accomplished, the Seventh Day Adventist Church was rented and regular services began on August 2, 1953 with 12 people in attendance.

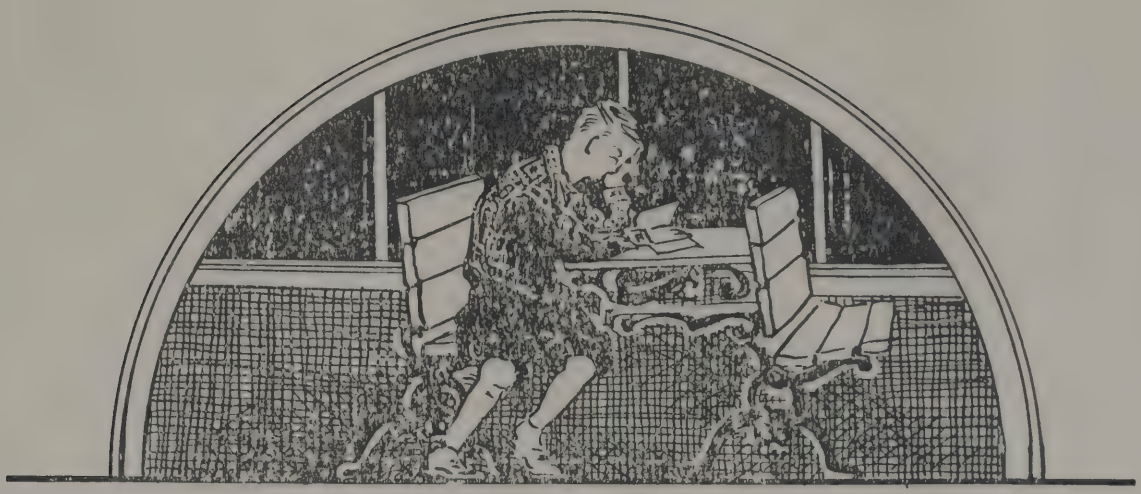
On April 2, 1954 the church was duly incorporated and granted a charter to worship under Iowa State Laws as the Grace Baptist Church.

June 1, 1954 the Rev. Robert Lehn was called to become the first regular pastor. Under his ministry the church has grown until at the end of 1955 there were 48 adult members.

September 27, 1955 a lot was purchased on North Second Street as a site for a new building. Present plans call for the erection of the first unit in 1956.

There is at the present an Assembly of God Church in Cherokee. However no history of this church is available.

Scene Along The Little Sioux In Years Gone By



CHAPTER VI

Education

There were two things cherished by the courageous group who left the east for their new homes which could not be packed into their covered wagons beside the family portraits, the old silver and the patchwork quilts. These were the forces of religion and education. The deep rooted Puritan tradition and the New England Public School System moved west with the covered wagon.

No matter how small a group of settlers gathered together they held their weekly prayer meeting for guidance and courage in their new homes. It was at these small meetings that the humble beginning of education was made in Cherokee county.

Most of the teachers in these early days were well trained, many in eastern colleges and academies. They had to have much courage; for wild Indians, sudden storms and loneliness threatened them. Their equipment was meager and inadequate.

The Iowa Code of 1858 called for "Establishing County Superintendents Offices", and Cherokee county lost no time in selecting a man to take this position — Mr. George Coonby, who served two years.

Miss Amelia Parkhurst taught the first school in the county as early as 1858, in Old Cherokee, when the Milford Society sent her $55 to teach a term of 11 weeks, which she taught with the assistance of Mrs. Carlton Corbett. This school was held in the Parkhurst home. There were 12 pupils, among them four from the Phipps and three from the Parkhurst families.

A newspaper account of an early log school house tells us, "The seats were made of logs, in which holes had been bored and sticks driven to serve as legs. The desks ran along the sides of the room and were made of boards which Jack Whisman had sawed at a mill farther down the river. These boards rested on sticks driven between the logs which formed the side of the building." The blackboards were merely boards nailed together and painted black. The erasers were bits of sheepskin with thick wool felt left on for a brushing surface.

Records show that the first school in districts outside of Cherokee was in a log cabin in Pilot township, built in 1860 and taught by Mrs. Corbett. Grand Meadow was the last of the townships to erect a school house, a frame building, built in 1877 and taught by Hattie Delfoose.

The one room frame buildings were very nice compared to the "Old Log Cabins." One elderly man said, " I larn't my ABC's and I had no sech nice place to larn them in; 'Tis a mighty grand place to fetch our young'uns up in." The floors were rough and unsightly. The walls were scarcely weathertight. The room was dark and chilly, hardly enough wndows for the size of the building. A stove was set up near the center of the room and a crooked stove pipe led to the chimney at one end. While the stove was fed frequently with wood, the supply was often inadequate and the children had to drag their benches nearer the fire and prop their books on their knees.

The room was crowded. The grown boys and girls worked beside the smaller children, and all of the desks and benches seemed to have been made for the larger children. Often the smaller children would sit on books to reach the desk, with blocks of wood under their feet so they could touch the floor.

The teacher struggled through the day helping one with the ABC s and another with Algebra. The schedule was as crowded as the room, but the three R's and spelling held their own.

In 1888 there were 120 ungraded rural schools in Cherokee County in addition to schools in Cherokee, Aurelia, Marcus and Meriden. A total of 4655 pupils were enrolled in the schools of the county. The cost per pupil, per year at that time

was from $1.39 to $3.62.

The first school in New Cherokee was taught by Miss Jennie Tucker (Mrs. Cornish) in the fall of 1870, in an old saloon building. The rent and other expenses were paid by subscription.

A new school board was formed at this time. Not desiring to build before they were able, no school house was erected until 1872, when a two story frame structure, divided into four departments, was completed. It cost $5800, including grounds, furniture and fixtures. This building stood just north of the present Bethlehem Lutheran church.

In order to build this building the newly formed school district, "The Cherokee Independent School District" issued bonds for 10 years at 10 per cent.

Due to the overcrowded condition in this school a lot was purchased May 30, 1881 in the "Addition" and in July the contract was given to J. H.

Webster School Then

Downing for a second school buliding. It was a two story structure built at a cost of $2500. This was the first Webster building. The present Webster building was erected in 1890.

Both schools were in use at one time, but on December 13, 1883 a fire destroyed the first school. It burned during school hours, but fortunately all teachers and pupils were evacuated safely. After the fire the older boys and girls attended the "Addition School."

The school board lost no time in calling a special meeting to find ways by which the winter term of school could be carried on. Rooms were rented in vacant building, halls and churches. One record shows the paying of $1.00 rent per month for a room.

On July 10, 1884 a contract was signed for a new building in the northeast part of Cherokee. This was first Garfield building. There was much opposition to the building of the school in the chosen locaton, due to the feeling that it was far from town and the ground too sandy and hilly.

However the vote was favorable and bonds

Webster School Today

were issued payable in 10 years at six percent interest. A contract was let to J. M. Starbuck for $18,650 in July 1884 and the building was ready for occupancy in November the same year. It

Old Garfield School

was a solid brick structure, containing 10 rooms.

The Cherokee High School was approved in the 1890's by the State University of Iowa and the Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges.

The first Commencement exercises of Cherokee

High School were held in 1884.

In 1895 the Lincoln building was erected in the central part of Cherokee. It was a two story stone structure. The first story was originally used for elementary grades, and the second as the Cherokee High School. Later the second floor was converted to a Junior High School. At present the entire building is used as a grade building. The original cost was $25,000 for building and heating.

Present Garfield School

FIRST

COMMENCEMENT

of the

Cherokee High School,

Friday Afternoon, June 13th, 1884.

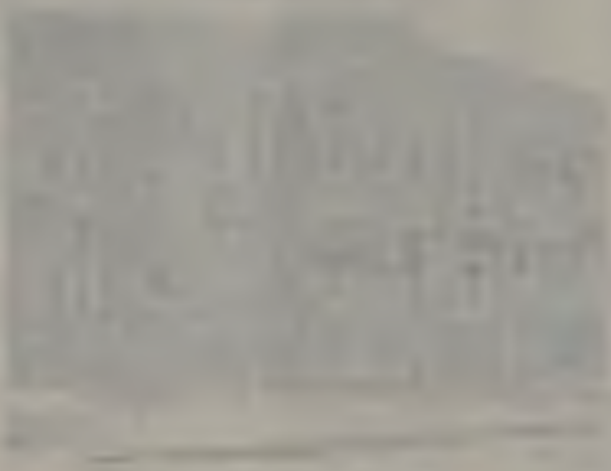
Cover of First Commencement Program

Old Lincoln School

Present Lincoln School

The Roman Catholic Parochial School, dedicated as the "Immaculate Conception School," was built in 1917. The cost when built was $30,000. There have been many improvements and

Immaculate Conception School



additions since then, and soon an addition to cost approximately $200,000 will be underway.

The Wilson School was completed in 1916 at a cost of $120,000 with two separate bond issues necessary because of under-estimate and rising

Present Wilson School

costs. On December 8, 1916, the building was opened to the public and dedicated. The principal speaker was Professor B. Shimek of the State University of Iowa. This building was used as a High School until 1953, when it was turned over to the Junior High.

A Junior College was organized in Cherokee in 1929. It was a two year college and offered an extensive curriculum. Credits were accepted by Universities and Colleges in the middle west. This college was under the supervision of the Servants of Mary. It was closed in 1938.

In 1934, the old Garfield building was razed and the new modern one erected. This is a one story, brick building, containing six class rooms and an auditorium. Because of crowded conditions it has become necessary to convert the auditorium into class rooms. The total cost was $42,852. Of this amount there was a Government grant of $12,500, this being a WPA project.

Washington High School

The new Washington High School was dedicated October 15, 1953. The principal speaker was Hon. Guy M. Gillette, United States Senator. A flag which had flown over the Capitol Building in Washington D. C. during his term of office was presented to the school at this time. The appraised valuation of this building, without lot or furnishings is $275,000. Additions, consisting of six classrooms and an auditorium-gymnasium are under way at this time. Additions are also being made at both Webster and Garfield buildings.

Enrollment in the Public Schools of Cherokee has grown from 12, in the first one room school in 1858, to 1301 in September 1955. There are 236 in Immaculate Conception school.

Cherokee schools have ever ranked high in the state, due to the taxpayers, the educators and the demands of the people.

Superintendents Who Have Served
City of Cherokee

William G. Fee	1878-1880
George T. Foster	1880-
E. A. Kreger	1894-1896
J. L. Rose	1896-1898
A. V. Storm	1898-1906
L. H. Maus	1906-1914
F. E. Tellier	1914-1917
F. W. Johansen	1917-1922
Lester C. Ary	1922-1926
N. D. McCoombs	1926-1936
J. C. Hoglan	1936-1946
R. E. Creel	1946-1955
L. W. Sexton	1955-present Sup't

Cherokee County

George Coonby	1858-1859
O. S. Wright	1859-1864
Joel Davenport	1864-1865
George Fisher	1865-1869
Oscar Chase	1869-1871
J. E. Sanders	1871-1873
W. H. Harriman	1873-1875
R. L. Noble	1875-1877
W. F. Rose	1877-1879
H. B. Strever	1879-1881
Ella Slater	1881-1883
H. B. Strever	1883-1887
Eva Gregg	1887-1895
Agnes Robertson	1895-1906
Kate Logan	1906-1913
Lew McDonald	1913-1917
Margaret Montgomery	1917-1921
Hazel Jackson	1921-1922
D. F. Funkhauser	1922-1924
Harriet Burrell	1924-1927
Lulu Rose Orr	1927-1933
Irene Brooks	1933-1948
Earle F. Berkler	1948 - present Sup't

City Government

CHAPTER VII

It is difficult to say that "government" in Cherokee started at a specific time under specific officials because the town of Cherokee had it's beginnings in 1856 near Mill Creek when members of the Milford colony banded together in a settlement. Together they built a community house and near this Old Cherokee was built. So, in reality, city government as thought of now did not exist then. When Iowa became a State, Cherokee County was established but was attached to Woodbury County for governmental purposes and Cherokee Township was co-extensive with Cherokee County.

An election was held in August of 1857 in the log house of George W. Lebourveau for the purpose of electing officers for Cherokeee County. Twenty-five votes cast with the following officers elected: A. P. Thayer, County Judge; Carlton Corbett, Prosecuting Attorney; George W. Lebourveau, Treasurer and Recorder; Samuel W. Hayward, Sheriff; Benjamin Sawtell, District Clerk and George Killem, Surveyor.

The County Judge had almost absolute power, so far as permitted by law and the Constitution, in the management of the affairs of the County. He had all the duties of the present County Board of Supervisors plus many more. Judge Sherwin followed Judge Thayer and on November 1, 1858 ordered suitable record books for the use of the County. Judge Sherwin's term expired on January 1, 1861, and the County Judge system was supplanted by the Board of Supervisors, which system still prevails. The law providing for the Board of Supervisors provided for one supervisor for each township and as Cherokee County had only one township (Cherokee) the actual change in this county was not too noted at that time. Albert Phipps was the first supervisor under the new system. However the County Court continued to function, looking after probate matters, issuing marriage licenses, etc., until January 1, 1869.

For several years the government of the small settlement was still not organized as a town but remained a small group in Old Cherokee. During this period the County government was continuing to grow and in 1861 three men were appointed by the court to locate a County Seat for the new county. It was decided to locate it in Cherokee and a six mill tax for "Courthouse purposes" was levied on property within the county. The contract for the building, a two story structure of 30' by 30' was let for $1300 to Jacob H. Cornell with the understanding that it be completed by November. Robert Perry was awarded the contract for the foundation which was to be done for $150. The first courthouse was erected in 1863 in the old town. It served not only as a courthouse, but also as a public hall, schoolroom and general utility headquarters for all public gatherings. This was moved in 1870 to near the old depot ground. The new courthouse was built in 1891 and is the same building that serves our county today. The County Seat has always been in Cherokee. There was no long, drawn out fight over a location such as has been true in many other counties. True, there was some dissension in 1879 when an attempt was made to change the location to Aurelia and again in 1885 to Meriden, but these were minor and were never brought to a vote.

The coming of the railroad and consequent change of location of Cherokee to its present site increased the population to the point where it was large enough to be incorporated under the then existing laws of the State. Cherokee was incorporated as a town in May of 1873 with the following officials elected: Mayor, George W. Le-

The Old County Court House at 7th & Main

Lebourveau; Recorder, M. Wakefield; Treasurer, L. Hixon; Marshal, L. D. Barnard; Street Commissioner, F. W. Huxford; Attorney, J. D. F. Smith. Many, many city officials have served the town well from that year to this and would that this book could include all of their names!

The officers known as trustees continued to be known as such until 1891 when Cherokee was organized as a City of the Second Class and divided into three wards and the name of trustee changed to that of alderman. When the Ward system was adopted, aldermen were elected, one from each ward and two at large, and the officers of the new incorporation were: Mayor, David Bloom; Aldermen, J. P. Rankins, F. W. Jackson, C. B. Holden, Robert Bain, C. A. Stiles, Charles B. Huxford; City Clerk, J. H. Umhoefer; Treasurer, J. P. Dickey; City Solicitor, M. Wakefield; Street Commissioner, Robert Bell (W. H. Gregg); Marshal, A. Stiner; Assessor, D. Hull; Night Police, J. Payton; Chief Fire Department, W. B. Chick; Health Officer, Dr. R. L. Cleaves.

The officials of Cherokee in this Centennial year should be noted: Mayor, George P. Rapson; City Clerk, James A. Cary; Solicitor, Loyal R. Martin; Councilmen, Gerhart Baumann, Jay Yaggy, Lyle Maxwell, Lewis Shea, Don B. Whitlatch; Marshal, Laurence Schmoldt; Fire Chief, Dale Goldie; City Health Officer, Dr. C. L. Seaman; City Street Commissioner, Frank Shove; Librarians. Bessie Fensler and Irene Leeds; City Dairy Inspector, Dr. John Dewar.

A town must have a meeting place for its government and in the early seventies a Town Hall and Fire Department building was built west of the railroad facing Cedar Street. The second City Hall was erected on Maple Street between Second and Fourth Streets in 1883 with council rooms on the second floor and the fire department on the ground floor. The third, and present City Hall, with a mayor's office and council hall on the second floor and the fire department on the first floor, was built in 1908 on Maple Street. In recent years the addition of a city hall, city rest room and headquarters for Police department have been added.

Before Cherokee was incorporated there was need for fire protection and a hook and ladder volunteer group was oranized in 1872. These men provided their own equipment and served well. In 1883 under town ordinance, this group was reorganized and the town now provided equipment consisting of hose, Remington fire engine and four horses belonging to dray lines. In 1889 the City Waterworks was established, which was a help to the Fire Department, and in 1890 the volunteer group consisted of 35 men with W. B. Chick as Chief. In 1914 the volunteer department was still the town's means of fighting fire and was composed of 17 members and three officers. Today, too, Cherokee is still fighting fires with a volunteer fire departmene with the equipment that is of the finest. This volunteer group and its officers down through the years has contributed much to the safety and well being of Cherokee from before its actual inception as a town, to date.

Cherokee's first water supply was, of course, from surface wells. Two cisterns graced Main Street, (primarily for fire protection) one at the intersection of Second and Main and the other a block west on Main. Pumps for drinking purposes were sufficient, with five in the block on Main between Second and Fourth. One of several watering tanks for horses was located north of the depot yard on Main and another was at the intersection of Union and Euclid. In 1889 a standpipe system of waterworks was established with the first "flowing well" struck in June of that year near the Little Sioux on East Main Street. The standpipe was first erected on North Eleventh Street with a capacity of a million gallons daily. In 1935 the present elevated tank was constructed. Additional wells have been sunk, mains have been extended and improvements made at the pumping station until today the daily capacity is over two million gallons daily, with a storage capacity of three-quarter million gallons and twenty-one miles of pipe.

The Mail service is a U. S. Government function rather than a city government one, but it is a vital part of each community. The mail service to Cherokee started long before its incorporation with Charlton Corbett in the spring of 1857 walking to Sioux City via Correctionville to pick up the "Milford Colony" mail that had been waiting nearly six months. The first actual postoffice was in the house of Benjamin Holbrook and had its inception in the fall of 1857. From the Holbrook residence the Post Office was moved to new Cherokee and the Wellman Drug Store, where is now the Fareway Grocery store, then into the Corbett building, the present location of the J. C. Penney store. For many years it was in the Smith building on the south side of Main Street and later in the Brummer building at the corner of Second and Main. Another location at one period was in a building north of the present Courier office on North Second Street. It was not until 1925 that the present Post Office was erected at the corner of Second and Willow Streets. The present Postmaster is W. H. Fishman.

Government and Politics are closely allied in minds of men, and a political plum of much worth to the community was the establishment of the State Mental Health Institute at Cherokee. Originally this was known as the State Hospital and many hours of work by many men went into obtaining the location of the hospital in Northwest Iowa and from that point on many towns in this area worked quietly to obtain the hospital. In early 1894 a committee of men of this community was formed to look after the interests of Cherokee to the Legislature. Thomas McCulla spent many months in Des Moines on this project and was joined in March of 1894 by some of the other members of the committee because this was the all-important year for the legislature to vote. Five towns were considered and after fourteen ballots Cherokee was chosen as the site for the new hospital. In August of 1902 the first patients wee admitted. The celebration in Cherokee upon the return of the committee from Des Moines with word of the vote was reported to have been a combination of a Fourth of July celebration and circus day rolled into one.

Another political note is the fact that Cherokee, both city and county has been considered pretty

Cherokee County Courthouse In Early Days

much Republican through the years but the first political meeting in the county was the Democratic Convention held in a corn field in June of 1858!

The city's Oak Hill Cemetery was administered for many years by a board of ladies, but in recent years the administration has been in the hands of the city council.

The Cherokee Public Library was formally opened on December 31, 1898, following a vote by the residents of Cherokee. However, prior to this, in 1886 a small number of local women had formed a stock company under the laws of the State for the purpose of maintaining a library in Cherokee to be known as the Cherokee Ladies Library Association. They maintained a room as a library for about twelve years, with members taking turns keeping it open two afternoons a week. The first directors of the association were Mrs. C. K. Butler, President; Mrs. M. Wakefield, Vice-President; Mrs. T. C. Ingersoll, Secretary; Mrs. J. C. Hall, Treasurer; Ms. J. H. Burlingame, Mrs. C. H. Kellogg, Mrs. A. H. Smith and Mrs. N. T. Burroughs.

In October of 1898 the Association gave their property, consisting of 1641 library books, 544 borrower's cards and furniture to the city for a free public library. Mayor Rankin appointed the following trustees, who were to serve temporarily also in lieu of a paid staff; Ms. N. T. Burroughs, President; Mrs. T. S. Ingersoll, Vice-President; Mrs. M. Wakefield, Secretary; Mrs. E. C. Herrick, Mrs. Charles Nicholson, Mrs. J. C. Wilson, Miss Inez Vandercook and Mrs. W. A. Sanford.

Mr. Carnegie having given the city $10,000 for the erection of a public library and $2,000 for furniture and fixtures, the present library was erected and formally opened in May 1905. Miss Jessie Swem was the first librarian, at a salary of $20.00 per month. The basement was not finished at this time but a few years later a few small rooms were completed with money from the Cherokee Improvement Federation and one of the rooms was used as a meeting place of the various women's clubs of the City. The fire department dried its hose during the winter of 1904-1906 in the downstairs room. A few years later the city funished money to complete the basement.

In 1915 the Children's library was opened in the basement with Miss Georgia Haymer as children's librarian.

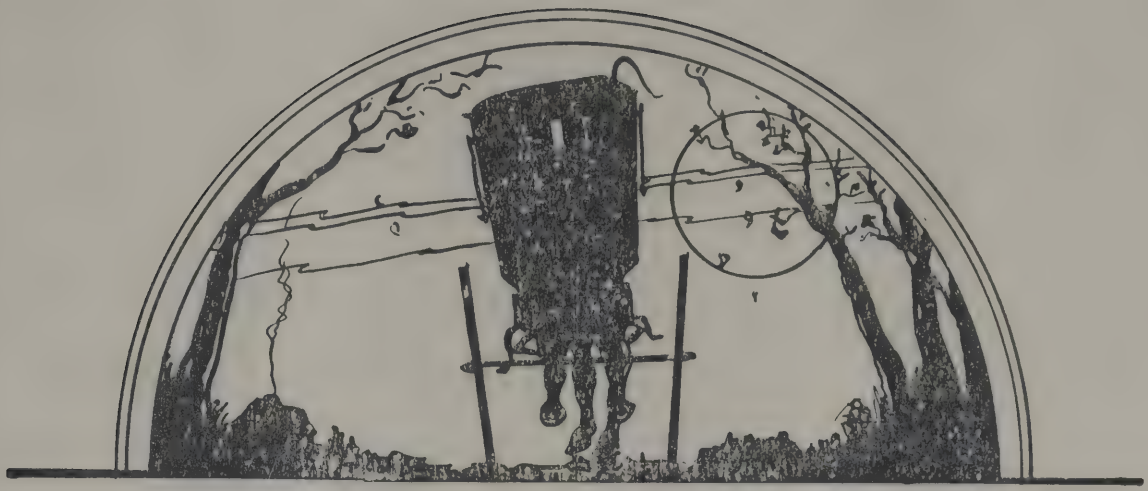
During the years books have been donated by various individuals and organizations, such as Rotary donating 148 volumes for a Boy Scout library; DAR lineage books; Miss Lottie Adsit's subscription to the New York Times Book Review. The Memorial Book Section is an ever growing one with friends giving appropriate books in memory of loved ones.

The first levy for Library purposes was one mill upon the taxable property in 1898. The budget for 1956 is $12,000, including $4,000 for the purpose of obtaining new furniture and fixtures.

From its humble beginning in 1898 with 1641 books and 544 borrowers cards, it has grown to nearly 20,000 books and 5,041 cards in 1956, with a circulation in 1955 of 33,346.

Miss Bessie Fensler has served as librarian since August, 1924 and Mrs. Irene Leeds as children's librarian since November, 1942. The present Library board is composed of: Mrs. J. Albert Fritz, Mrs. George Hicks, Mrs. W. P. McCulla, Mrs. L. C. Hodgen, Dr. C. H. Johnson, Mrs. C. D. Allison, Mr. R. T. Steele and Mr. L. C. Ary.

Post Office Crew In Years Gone By



CHAPTER VIII

Professional Life

Part One
Medicines & Allied Professions

The early physicians like their pioneer brothers were a hardy lot who met and surmounted their share of problems of that time. Lacking space it is difficult to describe individually all who have practiced individually in Cherokee and tell of their contributions to the progress of the town and county. A few experiences of early day physicians however, will contrast the early days with the present.

Dr. Dwight Russell was the first physician in the county.

Arriving in the county next was Dr. Levi Rogers who came to Pilot Township where he claimed a homestead in 1868. Unmarried he lived alone in a cabin about five miles south of Cherokee on the Little Sioux river. It appears he came with no thought of establishing a practice, rather of acquiring a farm by homesteading and to preach the gospel, but he did care for the physically ill.

Recognized as the first doctor to establish a practice of long duration was Moreau Sauvrigne Butler who came to Cherokee in the fall of 1868. Dr. Butler established a homestead four miles west of the town and lived in the old courthouse the first winter. Evidently his practice was not too large, for that first winter he also taught school in the courthouse. After proving up his land, he opened an office in New Cherokee and practice extended north into Clay and O'Brien counties as well as far south of Cherokee. It is said that people living in the Peterson vicinity felt they had a doctor "right on their door-steps" when Dr. Butler moved to Cherokee.

Many of the long trips country doctors had to make were necessitated because all patients had to be treated at home. None of the smaller towns had hospitals or any facility for caring for the sick, so a patient seriously ill would have to be visited many times though they might live 20 miles. The roads heavy with mud in the spring and fall and drifted with snow in the winter made transportation at best difficult.

A good horse was indispensable to the early doctor and Dr. Butler was no exception. His daughter, Mrs. R. E. Heywood, relates, "From the doctor's standpoint there was one saving grace. As there were no telephones and someone had to come with team or on horseback to call the doctor, he was not likely to be summoned unless the need was acute. Dr. Butler was fond of his horses and had a stable full of well bred animals. He was an extremely fast driver, but his horses were so well trained that they would stop instantly when ordered. On one occasion a visitor in a Cherokee home called her startled hostess to the window with the information that there was a runaway. The hostess looked out the window and remarked calmly, "No, that's just Dr. Butler."

Mrs. Heywood continues, illustrating another time when well trained horses were of utmost importance since houses were far apart and often roads had to be traveled at night with no more light than afforded by a flickering lantern. "One day Dr. Butler was called to a confinement case south of Cherokee. It was in the spring, the roads deep in mud with all the little creeks full to overflowing when he was called assured that the birth was imminent. As sometimes happens, though, the new arival did not meet the time schedule and when the doctor was finally ready to leave after mother and son had been made confortable, it was near midnight and raining. Although urged to stay until dawn the doctor thought he could make it home all right and started with full confidence in his team. They

plodded along through the mud and were not far from Cherokee when they came to a small creek crossed by a plank bridge with no railings. The horses were on the bridge, but the buggy came too close to the edge and suddenly the doc-

Dr. Moreau S. Butler
. . . first practicing physician

tor found himself in midstream, so entangled in the robes that he could not help himself. However the horses heard the "Whoa!" and stopped instantly. The water was not very deep and after considerable difficulty the doctor managed to get out and lead the horses out and start on home."

Arriving in old Cherokee the day before the snow storm of March 1870 was Dr. Royal L. Cleaves. Fire couldn't be kept in the stove that day because the wind was so fierce it rocked the 8 foot by 8 foot building, his home and office. Finally to keep warm he retired to bed in late afternoon leaving the snow to sift in until it almost filled the room. The next day he went to the nearby stable by using a line from his doorway while he searched for the unseen stable. When the storm had stopped on the third day, snow was removed from the cabin by first taking all the furniture outside, then shoveling out the snow.

Accounts tell of one of Dr. Cleaves' experiences following the storm. He had left his wife in Cedar Rapids while he came out to Cherokee. She came by train to Sioux City, then proceeded out from there. The day she was expected to arrive he had a professional call to the Alexander home 14 miles north of Cherokee. Arranging for a friend to meet his wife, he went on the call. Ready to return at nightfall he noted the appearance of a storm, but came on since he feared his wife would be worried and lonesome her first night in her new home if he were not there. The storm broke making the night dark, and soon he was lost going in a circle as he tried to find the trail crossing the hollow known as "Burr Oak Hollow" in Spring township. Eventually, worn out he tied his horse to a tree and laid down. Just as he was about to drowse, he heard a cow bell. Surmising a residence was nearby, he followed the sound. After a time his horse, which he was leading, refused to go further and finally the doctor shouted for help. A voice answered "Who is there?" "Dr. Cleaves of Cherokee." "Where are you?" "I don't know." "Well, wait until I get a lantern." The man found the doctor and his horse at the edge of the hay covered roof of his stable. The stable, built against a bank, had snow drifted over the roof until it was completely covered.

Years later though, Dr. M. F. Pritchard told Dr. C. H. Johnson, "You fellows now have more trouble getting places than we use to when we could go anywhere with no ditches, fences or roads to stop us."

When New Cherokee was laid out, Dr. Cleaves moved his office to the new town also. Not knowing where the depot would locate, he built his house leaving the nails in the weather boarding out half an inch so if it was necessary he might easily pull down the building and move to the desired location. From time to time he also had students in his office studying medicine, as was the custom of that day.

Operations were performed in homes. One of the items told of Dr. Cleaves early practice was of an arm amputation performed at a small farm home between daylight and dark. A blacksmith

Dr. Pritchard In Horse & Buggy

administered the anaesthetic, two farmers held the kerosene lamps on each side of the patient, James Will of Silver township whose arm had been caught in a threshing machine. The result . . . successful.

In another case Dr. Cleaves was assisted by Dr. Butler in the amputation of a foot of a young boy caught in a blizzard. His feet had been badly frozen. Neglected, gangrene had set in. The set-

tlers were so poor that the doctor besides furnishing the medicine and professional treatment sent provisions for the patient and settler's family during the convalescence of the young man.

Folowing Dr. Cleaves in opening offices were Dr. West in 1871; Dr. J. A. Sherman in 1873; Dr. M. F. Pritchard in 1874; Drs. J. S. and Anna Hill in 1877; Dr. E. W. Parker, 1878; Miss Mary Hollister, 1877; Dr. Edward Honribrook, 1879; Dr. J. H. Burlingame, 1880; Dr. Bunce, 1881; Dr. G. P. Perley, 1887; Dr. Wiliam Welch, 1896 and Dr. G. F. Puffet, 1899.

Dr. Sherman practiced with Dr. Butler until the latters death in 1895. Their office was described as being of several rooms since doctors in those days dispensed their own medicines. A large waiting room was centrally located with each doctor having a private office. The dispensary was at the rear.

Soon after the railroad was constructed through to the Missouri river the physicians in this part of the state organized the "Northwest Iowa Medical Association." Since there was another organization of the same name, this group disbanded. On May 2, 1888, the Cherokee County Medical Association was organized by eight physicians with Dr. Perley, secretary.

Locating in Cherokee from 1888 to 1900 but remaining only short periods, not long enough to establish themselves, were Drs. P. M. White, T. A. Bishop, Ed Brice, W. R. Keeny, John Simpson, and H. J. Brink.

After 1900 those doctors establishing permanent pracitices included: J. G. Biller (no date available); Drs. L. A. Wescott, 1901; P. B. Cleaves, 1902; C. A. Watson (no date available); Freeman Hornibrook, 1903; C. H. Hall, 1904; R. C. Seaman, 1906; W. A. Howard, 1913; C. H. Johnson, 1914; J. H. Merrick, 1915; R. C. Sebern, 1916; Nelson Edgar, 1917; Paul Allen, 1918; Lester Spinharney, 1923; John Pope, 1925; Russell Noble, 1932; Frank Boland, 1940; and C. F. Quinn who came here in 1913 after practicing in Meriden since 1896.

Now in active practice in Cherokee are Drs. C. E. Broderick, J. H. Wise, Don C. Koser, C. L. Seaman, J. F. Lawlor, H. D. Seely, J. B. Blair, H. J. Fishman and Charles Ellsworth.

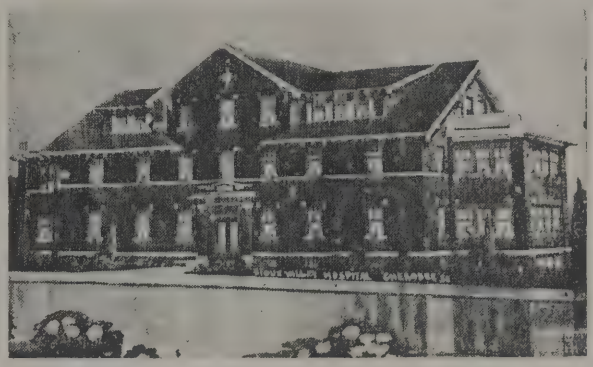
Having practiced medicine for many years in this state, C. O. Seaman established the Cherokee Sanitarium in 1896.

The Cherokee Medical and Surgical hospital was built in 1903 by Drs. Edward and Freeman Hornibrook for the "benefit and use of any doctor in good standing desiring to bring patients to it." It was a basement and two story fireproof building situated on "Piety" Hill.

Some years later this building was sold and the Drs. Hornibrook puchased the building in which is today the Panitorium Cleaners on the south side of Main Street. They used the downstairs for their offices with the upstairs being the hospital. Later it was turned over to Dr. W. A. Howard who continued to operate it until the Sioux Valley hospital was completed.

Dr. P. B. Cleaves, nephew of Dr. R. L. Cleaves, established a small five bed emergency hospital in 1914 to better serve his patients. His hospital, besides including the bedrooms, had an operating room, diet kitchen, sterilizing room and bathroom.

On October 19, 1915, forty-four people met to discuss the building of a hospital in Cherokee. James F. Weart was named the first presdient of the executive committee with Nestor Stiles nominated as secretary. Also serving on this committee were W. A. Sanford, Walter McCulla and Miss Rose Donovan. At this time it was decided to accept the site on North Second Street donated by Dr. Pritchard on which to build the hospital and that anyone contributing $25 or more to the



Original Sioux Valley Hospital

Corner Stone Laying

of the

New Sioux Valley Hospital

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 1916

Programme

Music.

Invocation . . . . . Rev. E. E. Mack

Music.

Introduction of Speaker . . . . . A. R. Molyneux

Address . . . . . Dr. E. E. Munger

Music.

History of Hospital Movement, G. M. Gillette

Music.

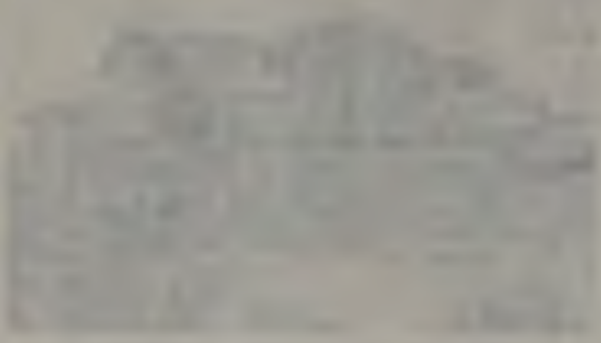
Laying of Corner Stone . . . . . Dr. Edward Hornibrook

Music---"America"

Benediction . . . . . Rev. A. B. Thutt

Music.

Program From 1916



building fund would become a member of the Sioux Valley Hospital Association.

At the corner stone laying ceremony July 23, 1916, Dr. Edward Hornibrook laid the stone. Guy M. Gillette gave the history of the hospital movement.

According to Mrs. Grace Heller who has served as superintendent of the hospital for a total of 30 years, "In 1916 the Sioux Valley Hospital was started, being financed almost entirely by peoply in Cherokee County. Rooms and various departments were furnished by people and organizations from the county.

The first hospital day was observed on May 12, 1921, set aside at the suggestion of President Harding for making people better acquainted with their hospitals. At that time they were invited to visit it and this is now an annual occasion in early May.

The hospital started a training program for nurses in 1917, but in 1930 this program was discontinued and since that time registered nurses have been employed along with many nurses aides.

At a meeting on May 16, 1944, plans for a new addition were discussed. The new addition, for which an open house was held July 1, 1951, has a bed capacity of 65 although 75 could be set up in an emergency, compared to the 29 bed capacity of the original hospital and the 35 bed capacity when the sunrooms were added later. The exterior of the building is now light toned brick with the older part having been refaced to match the new section.

An active group from almost the beginning of the Sioux Valley Hospital Association has been the Ladies Hospital Auxiliary. This group has saved the hospital many thousands of dollars by doing sewing and repairs on hospital garments.

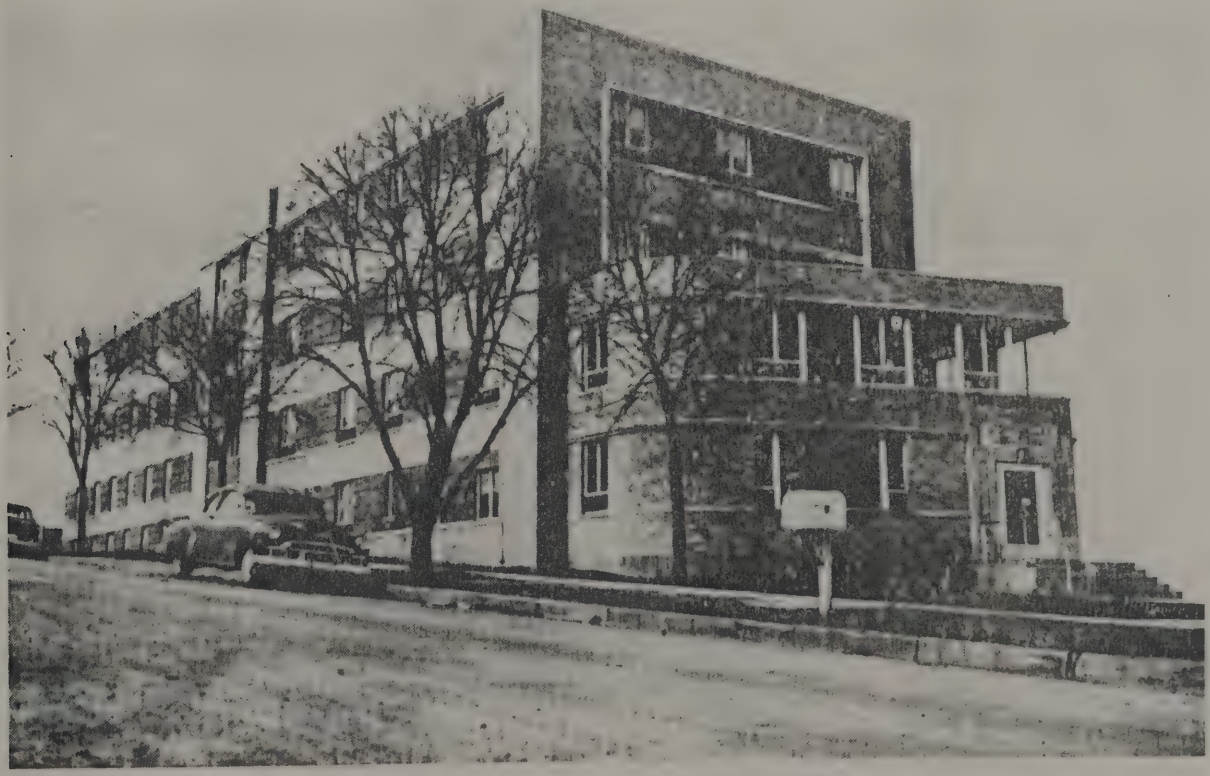
The State Mental Health Institute will be covered in another section, so it will suffice to name the superintendents of that hospital from its opening in 1902 until the present time. Dr. Matthew Nelson Voldeng, a specialist in the treatment of nervous and mental disorders was the first superintendent. Following him in that role have been Drs. Donohoe, Ristine, Soucheck, Oberman and Brinegar. A great many doctors have served in other capacities at the hospital.

Dentists

On record as the first dentist in Cherokee was a Dr. Morison who practiced here in the early seventies, then left. He was followed by Dr. Congor and Dr. J. W. Sturdevant. The first came here and practiced in the seventies while Dr. Sturdevant was here in the early eighties. Dr. W. H. Palmer came in the early 1880's, but sold his practice to Dr. F. P. Weber in 1885, but sold his later served on the state board of dental examiners and acted as president and secretary of that group.

Dr. George Eshelman came in 1896. Coming here in 1912 from Aurelia where he had started practice in 1898 was Dr. J. K. Rice.

Others among the early dentists were Drs. Frank Ballard, S. G. Dowdy, Charles Dwight of Marcus, Guy Archer, Burt Hall, R. H. Carrat. Dr. George Avery, now retied came to Cherokee in



Present Sioux Valley Memorial Hospital

1908. In 1911 Dr. H. A. Pitman came, while Dr. Roy Siple began practice here in 1912.

The following are now in practice in Cherokee: Dr. G. J. Fleig; R. V. Hanlon, E. C. Hogan, Charles Jarratt, James H. Johnson, Paul S. McCollister and A. J. Tanner.

Optometrists

No accurate list of optometrists who have practiced here since the licensing of that profession in the state of Iowa in 1910 is available. Those practicing here at this time are Drs. J. Albert Fritz, O. A. Royer and F. H. Collings.

Osteopathic Physicians

The first ostepathic physician to establish a practice in Cherokee was Dr. Wirst in 1896. He was followed by C. O. Hook in 1899 who turned his business over to A. E. Hook in 1910. Dr. Mary Hoard began her practice here in 1901 with B. O. Hoard joining her in 1902. Drs. Elizabeth Saddon, Grace S. Steele, H. L. Benedict and J. H. Coneway also practiced here.

Now in practice are Drs. Leo Harrison, Estelle Wise, J. E. Bunker, J. H. Hirschman and J. W. Hirschman.

Chiropractors

The first chiropractors here were Drs. Wire and Wire who came in 1910 and sold to Drs. Heath and Heath, a husband and wife team. Drs. Carl G. Barr and John Rebarcak are now practicing in Cherokee.

Chiropodists

Currently in practice here in this profession is Dr. J. W. Moore. Information on others in this line was not available.

Veterinarians

At the time of the first settling in Cherokee, the number of domesticated livestock was less than one tenth of one percent the number of our animal population today.

From Dr. John Dewar comes the following information. He says, "Needless to say there was little demand for veterinary services until later years when our livestock population began increasing. With all types of agricultural implements, even threshing machines, being powered by horses they were the most numerous of all domestic animals. Should a horse step on a nail it was treated by a blacksmith; if it were cut on a wire fence and fences were few, the wounds were treated by the owner; should it sicken from over feeding it was again treated by the owner. Each man had a favorite formula of salts, liniment and whiskey.

Naturally some men were handier at aiding animals than others, and it was a common practice to call in the assistance of Nathan Phipps, William Farran or Edward Mahoney to treat a horse or aid in the delivery of young calves or pigs. Farms were scarce, roads few and telephones unheard of in rural areas so it was natural for a farmer to ride a horse to one of his nearest neighbors in time of need."

Late in the nineteenth century four men located in Cherokee opening their individual offices for the purpose of practicing veterinary medicine. They were Drs. J. P. Strand, Potter, Juhl and J. F. Kennedy. According to information their only education was experience but they performed satisfactorily a much needed service to the farmers of this area.

Shortly before the turn of the century, Dr. Reuben R. Hamomnd, a graduate of one of the privately operated veterinary schools in the east, located in Cherokee. The opening of his office here marked the first scientific veterinary service for this community.

Dr. Walter Miller opened his office here about 1905 and practiced until 1911 when he returned to his native Illinois. His interests here were purchased by Dr. F. W. Knopp in 1911.

In 1910 Dr. E. H. Pease located his practice here and stayed until 1918. Dr. W. H. Horn came here opening his practice in 1912. It is believed that Dr. Horn was the first man appointed by the authority of the city council to serve as city veterinarian and health officer for the town of Cherokee.

Coming to Cherokee in 1917 to practice was Dr. W. E. Simonsen. He moved to Quimby in 1927. His brother Dr. O. K. Simonsen assumed his practice here.

Dr. Burch located in Cherokee for about a year starting in 1927 when he was appointed to the State Veterinary Department in California. Dr. L. D. Hoag purchased Dr. Burch's practice and remained here until 1929.

In 1930 Dr. John Dewar, a native of Cherokee, opened his veterinary offices in Cherokee and has practiced continuously here since that time.

Taking over the practice of his uncle Dr. O. K. Simonsen in 1939 was Dr. E. D. Simonsen, also a native of Cherokee County.

Dr. A. W. Krause purchased the office and equipment of the late Dr. W. H. Horn in 1943 and has continued here since that time.

Joining the partnership with Dr. Dewar in 1955 was Dr. James A. Creel, native Cherokeean.

Part Two
The Bar Association

Cherokee as any community has had its members of the bar from almost the beginning of the settlement and these professional men have guided the citizens on matters of law.

Hymeneus C. Kellogg is recognized as the first representative of the legal profession in Cherokee. He arrived in Cherokee May 22, 1869, after driving a long distance over the unsettled prairie of northwest Iowa. At that time there was not a town in this county, but the prospects looked bright so he and his son-in-law, Charles H. Lewis decided to settle in old Cherokee. There is some claim that C. S. Conant preceded him, but if so he remained here only during the location of the homesteaders and filing of their land applications . . . a lucrative business at that time.

Kellogg formed a partnership with his son-in-law, Lewis. Both men came here from Buchanan county, Iowa, where Lewis was admitted to the bar. Kellogg was admitted to the bar in Vermont in 1846.

When Blair City was settled, the firm of Kellogg and Lewis did business there, but in 1870 they moved their business to new Cherokee. Kellogg was known as one of the foremost lawyers in this section. He was known for his eloquence and was more feared by other members of the bar for that rather than for his knowledge of the law. It is said that when convinced that his side was right, he became so earnest that at times his feelings would overpower him and bring him to tears.

With N. T. Burroughs, Kellogg and Lewis also established a real estate firm.

Lewis acted as county recorder and district attorney before he was elected Republican judge of the 4th Judicial District, and on January 1, 1875, the firm of Kellogg and Lewis was dissolved. Kellogg practiced alone until E. C. Herrick, a druggist, who had been admitted to the bar, joined the firm which became known as Kellogg and Herrick. In 1882, Kellogg wishing to lead a less active life retired to his farm near Cherokee. Herrick continued in practice alone until 1904 when his son, W. K. Herrick joined him and the firm became known as Herrick and Herrick.

When Eugene Cowles came to Cherokee in 1870, there was no office space available. He was given quarters in the Culver Agricultural Implement store on West Main Street. It is told that Cowles could often be seen writing with his paper resting on a sack of bran and his client standing, since there was no seating space, while he wrote. With the completion of the First National Bank building he moved into the large office rooms above the bank where he continued to practice until his sudden death in 1880.

Also coming in 1870 was Charles Goldsbury who established a land, loan and law office specializing in collection of loans. He founded a banking business also where the Brummer building now stands. There he built two two story frame buildings, one of which he occupied with his bank and law offices. He lived alone over one of the store buildings.

Buying a lot on the south side of Main Street in 1870 was J. D. F. Smith, a new lawyer who built a small office, later replaced by a store building with his office above. Later still this was replaced by a brick building.

Melanchton Wakefield's card appears in the September 29, 1871 issue of the Times. He had taught school for two years in Illinois, then studied law and took up a homestead here in 1871. What was part of his land now includes one of the principal residential sections as well as the courthouse and Garfield school grounds. In 1873 he was elected town recorder and in 1878 mayor serving seven consecutive years in that office. After his mayorship he was elected city attorney where he served for eight years. He was also president of the Board of Home Enterprises which did much to secure the north and south branch railroad through here, promoted public enterprises such as the water works, electric light plant and small manufacturing enterprises.

Lewis Elsiver also appears to have established a practice here about this time, but he soon returned to Pennsylvania after finding he did not care for pioneer life.

The above men are considered the pioneer bar in Cherokee.

Peter D. McAndrew in 1874 established a copartnership with Wakefield which continued until around 1880 when it was dissolved. Following this McAndrew practiced alone until 1882 when he moved to Nebraska.

George Haswell lived here for several years. He had no office and did his work by solicitation according to early records. He moved in the seventies.

In 1875 E. K. Walbridge and James O'Donnell, two young men from Illinois, established a practice here for several years with Walbridge entering the newspaper business and the partnership thus dissolved. O'Donnell was elected justice of the peace, then limiting his practice to probate and office matters, and served until his death in 1900.

D. W. McNeal who was a half brother of O'Donnell practiced here until 1879 when he started farming in Willow township, later going into the lumber business in Quimby. Still later he reentered law practice and occupied the same office as O'Donnell. He also served several terms as city clerk and in 1912 was elected justice of the peace.

Purchasing the library and business of Eugene Cowles in 1880 was A. F. Meservey. He practiced until 1882 when he was elected State Senator of this district. Later he farmed. His business was purchased by John A. Metcalf, who practiced for five years before moving to Des Moines.

D. G. Edmundson practiced for a year or two alone, then formed a partnership with a Mr. Galbraith which lasted about a year and was dissolved with Edmundson going to Des Moines. Galbraith formed a firm with H. D. McBride as co-partner which lasted a year until Galbraith was appointed a Territorial judge for Montana territory in 1879. McBride sold his law business to Thomas McCulla who came here in 1879.

McCulla for a period divided his time between law and the newspaper business, editing the Cherokee Times for several years. He later served as recorder, city attorney and six times as mayor at which time he refused to serve longer. Later he was elected county attorney for three terms. In July 1903 he took W. P. McCulla, a nephew, in as a co-partner. W. P. McCulla born in Spring township, served as county attorney two terms. Later Lawrence McCulla was associated with W. P. McCulla.

In 1881 the firm of Willis and Molyneux was

established. F. R. Willis, the senior member of the firm, retired to Aurelia from where he went to Los Angeles and later became a judge of the superior court of that city. A. R. Molyneaux continued the practice alone until 1879 when he became associated with Clarence Plank. This partnership existed for about two years, when Plank retired and re-entered the business at Hawarden. Molyneux served as Cherokee county's first county attorney around 1880.

Carl J. Maher joined Molyneux in 1907 having just been admitted to the bar. Maher later served joined this firm at a later date.

Among others who have established practices here were S. L. Boddy and David H. Bloom who, though their practice was good and Bloom served as mayor for a period, found the field too small, so moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee.
heer for a short time then moved, later becoming

Alva E. Taylor, a student in his future father-in-law, Eugene Cowles office, continued with Meservey and was admitted to the bar, practiced here for a short time moved, later becoming a District Judge in South Dakota.

Studying in the Molyneux office after serving as superintendent of schools here for a number of years was George T. Foster. He was admitted to the bar in 1894, but before he had practiced long he died. Stanton Warburton also studied in the Molyneux office, was admitted to the bar, then went to Washington. He was elected to Congress for several terms from that state.

Prominent as a prohibitionist and conducting the prohibitionist paper, "The Home Guard," during that political campaign in this county was C. J. Gallagher who practiced for a time with Kreger and Roddis. His work dealt primarily in collections and he later moved to Des Moines. Kreger later served in the army obtaining the rank of general following World War II.

Studying in the J. D. F. Smith office was Claude M. Smith, his son, who was admitted to the bar in 1895 and began practice here. Joe Pitts, Seldon Hopkins and John Dwyer also studied in this office and were admitted to the bar. All moved from here.

Ed Lewis, son of Judge C. H. Lewis, began his practice here, but remained only two years when he left for the west and the banking business.

Alva C. Hobart studied with Meservey, was admitted to the bar in 1889 and established here, He perfected a set of abstract books for this county. In 1902 he was elected state senator serving for one term and then moving to California.

The practice of J. A. Miller was established in 1897. He served as county attorney for two terms. He was later joined by his sons, Marvin and Justus who have continued the practice since their father's death, still as Miller, Miller and Miller.

H. L. Loft practiced with Wakefield after first establishing at Sioux City moving to Washta where he practiced law and edited the newspaper and finally moving to Cherokee. He was elected clerk of courts for three terms. After retiring in 1913, he put on the market a patent envelope to hold legal papers, the fastener of which he invented.

Arriving in 1891 was William Mulvaney who first studied with Molyneux, then settled in Aurelia for a time and later returned here. During the time he was here, he practiced with Dr. Arnold for a time, also Thomas P. Cleary,, and the present senior judge of the 21st Judicial District, R. G. Rodman. Thomas P. Cleary bought an office in Sioux City

Guy M. Gillette, born on a farm near Cherokee, began practice here in 1901. He was elected county attorney, then State Senator for this district, and has since served in both houses of Congress in Washington D. C. He was a member of the Senate, finishing out the term of Senator Murphy and was elected two terms. He is still in official service in Washington D.C.

Others who have established law firms here and departed include: Homer W. Green who started practice here in 1912. J. L. Blanchard purchased the business of the Cherokee County Abstract Co. in 1913 and while new here had practiced law for some time previously. E. J. Hornibrook practiced here after being elected clerk of courts serving four years and one term as count attorney before he went west. Ben E. Ballou succeeded Hornibrook as clerk of courts serving two years when he resigned and went to Minneapolis. Joe H. Jones who started an abstract business here with C. E. Moore about 1880 moved to Des Moines to practice law.

Before moving to Chicago John V. Groves practiced here a short time as did George Groves before moving to South Dakota. Thomas F. Ward moved to Primghar in 1887 after practicing here. Locating here for a few years before going to elected to the District Bench and later became a Des Moines was Charles A. Bishop who was judge of the Supreme Court of Iowa. L. W. Names located an office here for a short time before going to Kingsley.

A. M. Galvin, Dwight C. Gilchrist, George A. Green, Guy J. Tomlinson, Harold A. Grigg, J. V. Gregory and K. A. Kanopsis have also practiced here. Z. A. Wellman and Henry Luge were recognized as early day lawyers, but neither practiced, Luge being mainly a farmer, also ran a newspaper, while Wellman operated a drugstore and was an early postmaster. John W. Coburn practiced law while doing post graduate work. William McKay an early justice of the peace, returned to his home in New York.

Lew McDonald opened his office here in 1913 having preciously taught school. He was joined after World War II by David Sayre, then by his

son, John McDonald, present county attorney and in 1955 by another son, William McDonald.

Lester C. Ary became associated with W. K. Herrick, Ary is now in practice with his son-in-law, J. H. Cook

Harlan Moen is associated with W. P. McCulla.

John D. Loughlin is now in practice with his father, John F. Loughlin, long time city attorney. George Farr, while serving in Washington D. C, still maintains an office here.

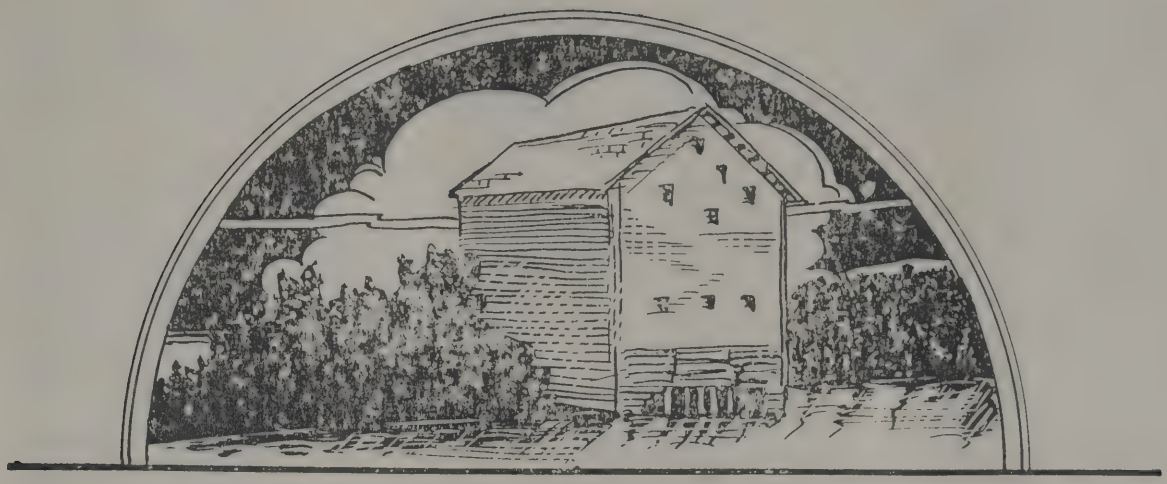
Loyal R. Martin, present city attorney, continues the business of the Claude M. Smith and J. D. F. Smith II offices. J. D. F. Smith II admitted to the bar in 1931 served as county attorney one term.

Don Hankens practices under the firm name of Hankens Maher and Meloy.

Archie Nelson and Joe Nelson practice as the firm of Nelson and Nelson.

Lawrence McCulla and Harold McWilliams are in private practice at this time.

Flood Picture From 1891



CHAPTER IX

Business and Economics

Before it was known that the railroad would be built to come near the settlement of (old) Cherokee, business was most notable for its absence. The population was so small that it was impractical for anyone to make a living running a full time business.

Of the settlers, Albert Phipps permitted travelers to stay at his house and because of this can be said to have operated the first "hotel" in Cherokee. There was a blacksmith who operated within the stockade. Thomas Twiford built a sawmill in 1865 which provided material for bridge and house building. These were the county's businesses in the early settlement days.

It was eleven years later, in 1867, that Fred Huxford provided the means for the first general store operated by John L. Foskett in the blockhouse. Here were sold the first goods in the county, for prior to this time all merchandise was freighted in from Sioux City and other Missouri River points.

In fact even in 1867, the "town" of old Cherokee was actually more of a settlement, something like a township as those in the Middle West use the term, or like "Towns" (which are the municipal corporations of townships) in New England.

This condition changed with remarkable rapidity as the railroad approached Cherokee. Everyone seemed to have been in agreement - that they would locate near the railroad depot . . . but since no one knew where it would be, even where the tracks would be, or how soon construction would be completed, their problem remained.

William Van Epps, a member of the firm Vandercook and Van Epps, bought twenty acres of land south of the fort in 1859 and plotted it in lots. He called this town Blair City in honor of an officer of the Illinois Central Railroad, hoping to influence the location of the depot. A number of lots were sold and some temporary buildings put up. "Doc" Ward's saloon, for example, obtained free water from Albert Phipps' well, to achieve the dilution necessary to run a really profitable business.

Those that did locate and were in Blair City in 1870 included the Huxford store which moved its goods to where Henry Nye was located; the first newspaper, The Cherokee Chief, owned by Mr. Ford; Vandercook and Van Epps, general dealers with teams freighting goods in from the Missouri River; Burroughs, Kellogg and Lewis, land agents, with the latter two attorneys at law; Charles Culver handling agricultural implements; Ransome Luther, lumber; while Thomas Greer was the shoemaker. Smith and Knight operated a livery and a stage which went to Newell. Blacksmiths were Thomas Lewis and "Zeb" Herrick. Banister and Lockwood, probably operators of a saw mill, were succeeded by Walter Harriman. Thomas Twiford continued in business as a general contractor and bridge builder. Eugene Cowles, attorney and Dr. R. L. Cleaves were newcomers.

No one was very astonished when the railroad did not come into Blair City, but located its depot near the present one, somewhat to the southwest. Everyone moved to New Cherokee, which was plotted March 21, 1870, locating as near the depot as possible. During the summer of 1870 James Archer sold more than $20,000 worth of lumber. Almost all of the homes and offices were built with the nails left half way out, in case the depot site should be re-located and it would be necessary to move their business.

Located in Cherokee on New Years Day, 1871, were five grocery stores, two meat shops, two hardware stores, three hotels, three lumber yards, one implement store, harness shop, two shoe shops, three blacksmiths, three doctors, three law offices, three church societies, three civic orders, three saloons and a schoolhouse.

Business and Economics

General View Of City In Early Days

The Twiford home was the first house moved to New Cherokee, on April 1, 1870. In October of 1871 the Times reported George Satterlee made 26,000 bricks. The town was growing.

There is some controversy as to which was the first hotel. One source tells that the first regular hotel was built by William Stoughton. Another says that the "Cherokee House" built in 1870 by a Mr. Moore on railroad lands near where the tracks cross Main Street was the first one. This hotel was replaced before long by the McLean House. Still another reference is made to the "Cottonwood" run by Dan McKay who frequently quartered as many as a hundred guests. This structure was gone before November 1, 1872, when mention is made of it at that date in the Times. Still other sources tell of a hotel in connection with W. H. Fife who was a general merchandise dealer.

About this time Culver sold his implement business to Robert Hall. In 1871, on the west bank of the Little Sioux, where the wagon road crossed an iron bridge northeast of the city, J. B. Bliss built a flouring mill run by water power and known as the Cherokee Mills, later, the "Old White Mill". In 1887, Charles Beckwith,

Main Street — Looking East — About 1872

Fifes Store In The Early Days

who had purchased the mill in 1882, converted it to a full "roller system" which brought the mill up to a 50 barrel a day capacity. At a somewhat later date P. F. Fassler erected a steam flouring mill and the Old White Mill was abandoned. Later, because wheat ceased to be grown here, this business became unprofitable.

June of 1872 found two grain elevators opening simultaneously. James Archer's had a capacity of 10,000 bushels while C. Beckwith's had capacity for 8,000 bushels. September of 1872 the weekly purchase of 6,000 bushels of grain was valued at $5,000. Records show that during that season $20,000 worth of farm machinery was sold, including reapers, mowers and harvesters.

Of the brick and tile works, that of J. M. Starbuck was the most extensive. His was first located in 1875 near the Fountain House. In 1876 he moved to a new site one-half mile south from the business center, where a more substantial and highly regarded type clay was found. After two years he sold to C. A. Dow, but purchased again in 1883. There were three ovens, each maintaining a different heat. It was then known as the largest kiln in Iowa where the best quality bricks were made. In 1887 the payroll ran at $4,000 a month.

In October of 1872 business had increased in one year to include three grocery stores, one grocery and drug store combination, three drug stores, one meat shop, one hardware store, two hotels, two lumber yards, four agricultural dealers, four general stores, two harness shops, two shoe shops, three blacksmiths, two boot and shoe stores, one jeweler, two newspapers, two banks, one land office, one gunsmith, one restaurant, one milliner, one merchant tailor, one photography studio, two livery stables, and one furniture dealer and undertaker.

In the eighties almost all of the homes of local business men were located as near as possible to the business. Most of the residences were in the First to Sixth Streets, Willow to Elm section,

The McLean House

thus being near to Main, Willow and Maple Streets where the businesses were located. A few, such as C. A. Stiles, Dr. M. S. Butler, T. H. Steele and Hawley Allison, did live further out to the northeast in "the Addition". Transportation, of course, was the major factor in this proximity of business to residence.

New York Cash Store

This was the era of the Spa operated by Dr. Gee of Chicago, in conjunction with the Fountain House Hotel, Horse Racing Track, and Chautauqua Park. The resort hotel, owned and under the management of N. T. Burroughs, was opened in the summer of 1881. It was situated just east of the junction of Magnetic, Park and Saratoga Avenues, with the mineral springs feeding the artificial lake created on the landscaped grounds. The chautauqua platform and camp grounds was a part of the Fountain House grounds. Guests of the resort often brought their own horses to train for the season at the nearby race track, while they enjoyed the benefits of the spa and entertainment offered by the chautauqua. Nothing remains today of the buildings or site of any of these establishments, even the lake having disappeared.

Credit was extensive and was a problem particularly for the implement dealers who were the first to suffer when crops were poor, as in 1876 and the spring of 1877 when grasshoppers had caused great damage to crops.

George Beebe's general store, located where the J. C. Penney building now is, was a narrow double building with groceries on one side under the management of Mr. Beebe and dry goods and some ready-to-wear on the other side with Mrs. Beebe in charge. Most goods were sold from bulk containers. He had racks for display in front of his store, as did most of the other similar stores. Mr. Beebe bought the first postal money order here in 1874.

Rural customers at this time usually came to town only once or twice a year. It was necessary

Lowry Livery Stable — At 5th & Main

Boiler Avenue – Maple Street – About 1900

Boiler Avenue - Maple Street - Now

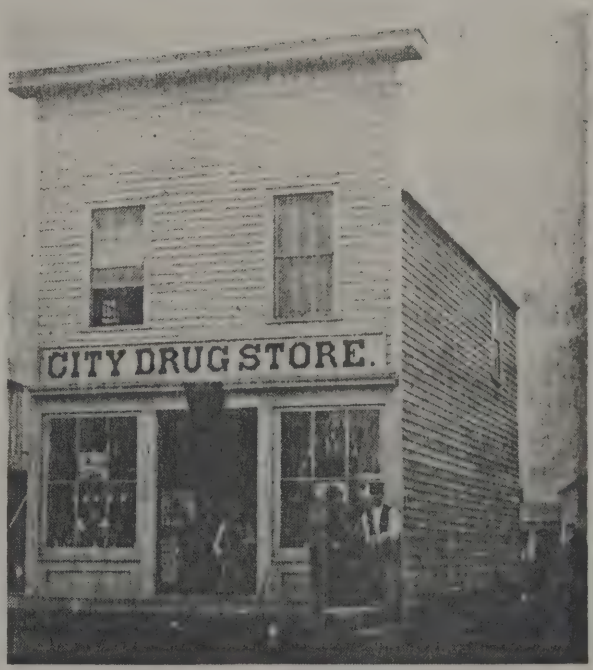
Yesterday's Main Street — Looking West From Second Street

for storekeepers to have on hand large stocks of staples. An every day sight were barrels of stock salt on the sidewalk in front of Harpers Brothers grocery. Butter at that time was kept in tubs. The story is told of the Burroughs pet monkey, which, when it got away, could always be found at the Ross grocery store with its arms plunged into the butter. At that time there was no paving and a Badger chained in front of the Trahn building dug a hole under the board walk. Wells were still located on Main Street. The water system was not put in until in 1889.

In 1885 the Citizen's Life Association was organized. In 1887 the Board of Home Enterprise was established for the purpose of promoting light industry here. (See reference to this in chapter on Bar Association).

In 1889 the Opera House, was build, a wood building which burned in August. A stock company was then formed to build a structure to be completed by January 1, 1890. Bricks from the Buchanan Hall, which was torn down to make room for the Opera House, were saved and used in the new building. It seated 500, had gas footlights and four dressing rooms. With remodeling down through the years, the Opera House building still stands today as the Arrow Theatre.

About this time the first utilities began to appear. The franchise for the first telephone exchange in Cherokee was granted June 13, 1883, at which time A. F. Meservey was elected manager. The central office for the exchange was located in his law office and was run by his brother. There were 27 original subscribers and



Herricks Drug Store

three more later and on September 12th the system was completed and operations started. In 1895 this franchise was cancelled and a new one granted to R. L. Robie and Associates. This one had 40 phones. This exchange was completed in July and used telephones maufactured by a Mr.

Pierce, a former Cherokean, then living in Chicago.

In August of 1901, the Western Electric Company was granted the franchise but sold in 1912 to the New State Company. In January of 1920 they sold to the Iowa Telephone Company and in 1921 the name was changed to the Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. On October 6, 1925 a 25 year franchise was granted by the city. This was renewed December 10, 1949 for a period expiring October 15, 1975. Present manager of the company is B. E. Adams.

Yesteryear's Second Street — Looking North From Elm Street

Yesteryear's Second Street — Looking South From Willow Street

Next of the utilities to appear in Cherokee was the Cherokee Electric plant built in 1890 by a building and loan corporation, promoted by J. C. Hutchins of Monmouth, Illinois. Before the plant was completed it was taken over by the Sheriff

Old Cherokee Electric Co.

of Cherokee County and sold at Sheriff's sale to E. D. Huxford, W. A. Sanford, R. H. Scribner and J. C. Hall, four Cherokeans. Gus Lundgren became the manager.

In 1912, Alexander A. Boyd, business manager of the East Division of the Iowa Public Service Company, located at Waterloo and R. F. Garrettson, Michigan City, Indiana, purchased the electric plant and the distribution system. Prior to May 12th of that year service was available only from four p.m. to eleven p.m. with the time for service to begin or stop noted by a whistle. After May 15th of that year, service was on a twenty-four hour basis.

The Cherokee Electric Company was sold about June 1, 1925 to the Central Iowa Power and Light Company, offices in Humboldt. After controlling the business a few months, it was sold to the Iowa Light, Heat and Power Company with offices at Carroll. In 1927 this company became part of the Iowa Public Service Company.

Changes too numerous to detail have been made in equipment and manner of furnishing power. Offices today are mainttained on North Second Street with the plant located on West Cedar Street, including a newly constructed service building. Present manager is A. M. Larsen who began these duties in 1939.

Gas service was started in Cherokee in 1905 by George A. Green who organized the Cherokee Gas Company. At this time the company produced at its plant, located at Fourth and Locust, water gas made from coke, coal and oil. It was sold to customers for cooking and heating purposes.

In 1913 H. E. Bennett became manager. The Northwestern Light and Power Company bought the property in 1925. When Ivan Ziengenbusch present manager, came in 1922, about 500 customers were served. At that time a quarter of the

Main Street — Looking East

business on Main Street used gas lighting and Saturday was devoted to cleaning the dirty globes so they would sparkle on Sautrday night.

In 1932 the service had risen to include nearly 900 customers. In 1940 natural gas was brought in from Northern Natural Gas Company which had pipe lines from west Texas to Minneapolis. In 1954 the Iowa Electric Light and Power Company purchased all assets and it is today operated by the gas division of that company. Many thousands of feet of pipe have been installed since 1945. There are now over 2,000 customers, over 1,700 of which are heating customers.

The Rural Electric Association in Cherokee became a reality on January 19, 1939, though it first was organized in May of 1938. On July 9th of that year it was incorporated by nine members with Alfred Schmillen elected the first president. In 1939 one hundred sixty miles of line were authorized with Glen Dull supervisor of the construction project.

Today REA has an office building on North Fifth Street, serves 1,500 consumers on over 619 miles of line. A. R. Hagerstrand has been manager since March of 1941, with Schmillen continuing as president.

Now a return to the Economic side of Cherokee's growth.

Fred R. Fulton started a banking business in 1872 with R. H. Scribner as partner under the firm name of Fulton & Scribner, Bankers. They located in a small frame building where the present Hotel Lewis stands. In 1875 a brick building, the first in Cherokee, was erected where the Central Trust and Savings Bank now is and the bank move across the street. Fulton sold his interest in the bank in 1873 to N. T. Burroughs and Corbett and Whitmore, the name being changed at tht time to Scribner, Burroughs & Company. W A. Sanford joined it in 1876 and Cornelius Sullivan in 1881. In 1883 the private bank became the first National Bank, organized under United States supervision with Burroughs, president; Sanford, vice-president; Scribner cashier; and Sullivan, assistant cashier. It was dissolved in 1930.

The Steele State Bank, the oldest continuous bank in the county, was founded in June of 1874 under the name of T. S. Steele and Son, by T. S. Steele and T. H. Steele, the latter having active management. It was located in a frame building on the south side of Main Street, but in 1879 a brick building was erected and was used for nealry seventy years. In 1892 D. T. Steele joined the firm, the name becoming T. S. Steele and Sons. In 1896 the name changed with the death of T. S. Steele, to "The Steele Bank" with J. F. Steele a member also. In 1921 R. T. Steele and H. C. Steele were admitted to the firm. Until 1933 it was conducted as a private banking business and at that time it was incorporated under the name of "The Steele State Bank". In 1949 they moved into new quarters at the same site. In

Barbecue Held To Celebrate New Street Lights — 1913

1951 H. C. Steele sold his interest to R. T. Steele. A fourth generation member, Thomas J. Steele is now employed at the bank.

In 1885 the Cherokee Building and Loan Association was founded with A. F. Meservey, president; R. H. Scribner, vice-president; Charles E. Moore, secretary; W. A. Sanford, treasurer. This association functioned until 1905 when, according to its articles of incorporation, it was to disband.

Organized on October 2, 1888 was the Cherokee State Bank, with J. P. Dickey, president; J. C. Hall, vice-president E D. Huxford, cashier and active manager and with a board of eleven men serving as directors. Doors were opened for business October 22 of the same year. In 1895 J. C. Hall succeeded Dickey as president and was followed in that office by Huxford, George Brummer, George Wilson, and at present Loren Anderson. The bank is a member of the Federal Reserve System.

Having been organized earlier in the month, the Central Trust and Savings Bank was opened for business in May 14, 1931, at the location of the dissolved First National Bank, on the corner of Main and Fourth Streets. A. W. Jones was president; H. E. Bennett, vice-president; H. N. McMaster, acting cashier, with six men on the board of directors. There are two branch offices of the bank, one at Washta and one at Quimby. A. W. Jones is chairman of the board in 1956 and John B. Keeline, president.

L. C. Ary, Paul Caswell, Lyda I Moore and A. J. Hughes attempted to arouse interest in a locally owned and managed savings and loan association in 1935. In 1945 twenty-eight charter members invested in the Sioux Valley Savings and Loan Association which they organized. Leo Matt was the first president and Lee Miller is the current one. It maintains offices at 227 West Main Street.

At the turn of the century transportation was causing certain changes in business procedures and practices. Once or twice yearly quantity buying trips were no longer necessary. Merchants could expand the variety of their stock, yet get

Reigel Blacksmith Shop

Lucas Livery Barn - Across From Freight Depot

along with less quantity of staple items.

In 1907 Will Johnson opened the first automobile garage in Cherokee at the corner of Fourth and Willow. He sold Franklins and Fords. Dr. M. F. Pritchard purchased the first Franklin roadster which he used in his medical practice tells Mrs. Johnson. C. A. Stiles and E. D. Huxford were other early purchasers. Warren Lathrop, a rural mail carrier, headed the list of Ford buyers. These cars however, were not the first ones driven in Cherokee.

In 1914 there were four garages and four wagon shops in business. Today the number of businesses connected with automotive trasportation is large including service stations, garages, accessory stores, and others.

The year 1914 found Main Street paved. At this time, too, there was a boom in building both in business buildings and residences. This collapsed in the early twenties and for many years the basement of William Hutton's Motor Inn on the site of the present Firestone building was just that, an uncompleted basement. What is now the American Theatre was a boarded-up, partially completed structure for many years after it was started by a stock group which failed: Industry located in the city then included Sachse-Bunne & Co., and H. C. Miller, who rebuilt engines, particularly steam threshers. By this time the Steam Flour Mill and the brick yard were defunct. In general the town of Cherokee was more as it is today.

Among the industries which are located here are Lundell's and Schissel's Manufacturing Companies. Both result from inventions by local people. Vernon Lundell, inventor of the original Lundell farm machinery, started his business with $140 investment in a one room shop near Meriden in 1945. Today it is a large plant of modern design, with assembly line, storage and shipping departments, sales offices, and cafeteria for employees, located at the intersection of Highways 3, 5, and 59 north of the city.

Joe Schissel founded the Manufacturing plant bearing his name in 1935, to produce Murry

Power Mowers. The mower is named after Roy Murry who helped build and produce the first machine in a farm garage south of Cherokee. Their plant is located on Highway 59 within the city limits.

The Caswell Manufacturing Company was established in 1901 by Walace, Henry and Andrew Caswell. One of the first articles which they manufactured, that received ready acceptance, was a belt guide. They specialize in farm machinery and an important item in recent years has been the Caswell Loader. It is under the managership of Lawrence French today.

Cherokee Concrete Products Company is another local concern manufacturing principally concrete blocks and cement tile. It is owned by the Sioux Ranch Company.

The Cherokee Manufacturing Company, located north of Cherokee on Highway 59, manufactures weed sprayers and television antennas, and is owned and managed by M. F. Nord.

The Cherokee Silo Company, which manufactures silo staves and erects silos, is owned and managed by Ed Freeburger.

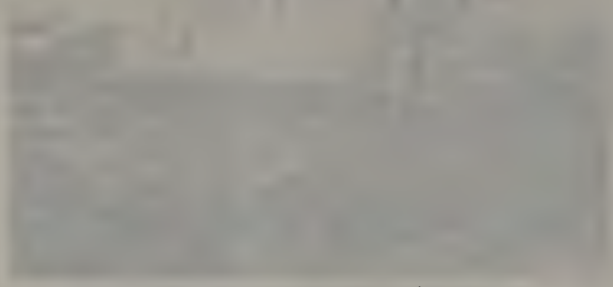
The Chief Manufacturing Company owned and managed by Joe Beal, manufactures bearings for Rotor Antennas.

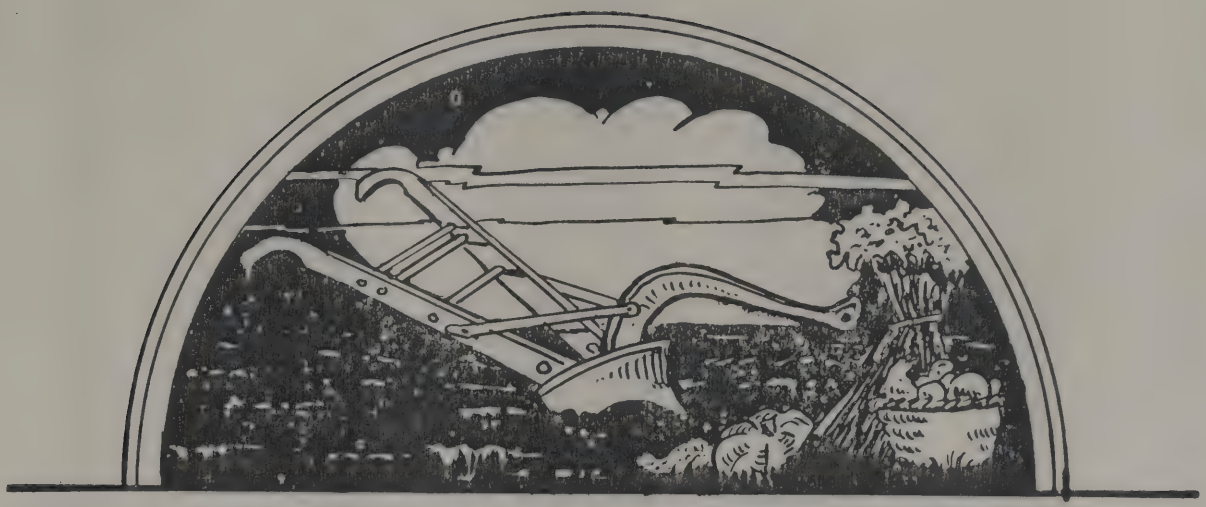
Because of the rapid transportation offered by cars, business has tended to decentralize with a number of the grocery stores in particular located away from the main part of the business district and only two making home deliveries. The Swanson Super Market is the result of the work of A. L. Swanson, formerly of Larrabee, who now owns a string of ten super markets in this state and Minnesota, and has a fleet of trucks bringing in produce and goods directly to serve these stores.

Van Eps Store In Early Day

In this Centennial year of 1956 a glance through the list of businesses contained at the end of this book will show a variety of both business and industry. The addition of industry to the town has been the most notable difference in the past few years, making the economy of the city not quite so dependent on agriculture as it was at one time. For further reference to the business and economic development of Cherokee one should consult Thomas McCulla's "The History of Cherokee County" and recent Cherokee Chamber of Commerce summaries.

An Early Day Fire On Main Street





CHAPTER X

Agricultural Development

Agricultural history of the Cherokee area dates back far beyond the appearance of the first settlers. Most American Indian tribes, in spite of their roaming and unsettled habits, practiced agriculture. It is known that flint corn or "squaw" corn, squash, pumpkin, pulse, tobacco, melon and sunflower were produced by them.

The first colonists of the Milford Emigration Society brought with them a limited quantity of farm stock which was purchased by the Milford Copartnership Company and then resold to the members as they came into the area and chose their respective claims.

The stock included oxen, milch cows, pigs and poultry. Although there was not a "dirt farmer" among the colony members when they organized in Milford, Mass., they were not long in learning the ways of agriculture after they arrived. It was simply a matter of doing or dying. Being resourceful people of varied professions and trades, they were not long in adapting themselves to the means of existence by the soil.

A part of the land of this area was known as "swamp land' and was so classified in the original statutes governing the disposal of such land and sold accordingly. Consequently, it was necessary to drain the surface of its excess moisture before the breaking plow was employed. The process of water drainage was carried out by means of a sub-surface implement called a "bullet". The shape of which was very similar to the object from which its name was derived, and was drawn by multiple teams of oxen. Great power was required because the "bullet" was pulled into the ground and followed rather closely a line parallel to the ground surface, possibly one and one-half to two and one-half feet below. Its trail left a pronounced subterranean channel with ample depth and width to sufficiently drain the head water in a short time.

It was in the Northeast Quarter of Section 26 in Cheorkee Township, that the first furrow was laid open by a team of oxen in the spring of 1856, and which marked the beginning of the present day agriculture.

The things that brought about the changes can be closely associated with soils, labor, machinery, markets, transportation, and scientific breeding of plants and livestock.

Most of the machines, when they first came on the market were very crude, inefficient, wasteful, and hardly equal to the old way of doing things. The first auto couldn't compete with a horse and buggy. The first tractor couldn't equal a team and plow. The first trucks couldn't move as many goods as a team and wagon. So, in most cases, it was a long time from when they were first made to when they were in popular use. It is a wonder they were ever tinkered with and improved until they would finally work.

When a machine would work satisfactorily, it was nearly always used for custom work, due to its high cost. But the period between custom work and common usage was generally short.

In 1875, a breaking plow was a custom implement. It was a walking plow that cut a narrow strip, had a long mold board and laid the prairie sod over in long unbroken ribbons. Along with the walking plow, a progressive farmer had a wagon, a harrow and a walking cultivator. The operator walked behind them all day long with moist dirt collecting on the soles and heels of his shoes hindering his progress.

When the prairie had been broken and farmed a year, the ground would plow easier, so standard walking plows were used. They were faster than breaking plows, which enabled the farmer

Agricultural Development

to increase the number of tilled acres on his farm.

The principle crop at that time was flax. The flax and grain were sown by carrying a sack of seed on the shoulder and spreading it by hand. That method was followed by the broadcast seeder and grain drill. The grain drill is still used but the broadcast seeder has been replaced by the sling shot seeder.

A little grain and hay was raised to feed the horses and a cow or two. A custom reaper or grain binder cut the flax and grain and a threshing separator, that was run with horse power, separated the grain from the straw. When a reaper was used it left the grain laying on the field in small bunches. Then, men came along and bound it into bundles, using part of the straw for a band, so it would be shocked to dry.

When threshing machines were first used men used to stand in front of the cylinder and cut the bands by hand — the hottest, dirtiest kind of work. When mechanical band-cutters were put to use they were very simple. To compare the threshing machine of early times and now: if a man put a bundle of damp flax in a separator cross-ways and it sprung the clyinder shaft, so that it had to be replaced with a new one, it took three weeks to get the new part. Now, a new shaft could be replaced in about three hours.

In a few years flax was no longer a paying crop, and wheat replaced it, to a large extent. About that time better corn planters came on the market and that increased the corn acreage.

The first corn planters were a small slim box that was carried like a cane. When stuck in the ground three or four kernels of corn would drop in the hole. A man with one of them didn't plant much corn in a day. Then came a planter that drove lengthwise over the field that had been marked crosswise. One man drove the team and another man, riding on the machine, moved a lever every time he crossed a mark. That dropped the corn in the ground, in hills. A little later the check wire came into use. It had a splice or button every 42 inches and was strung across the field, staked at each end to keep the wire tight. When the buttons went through the planter, that checked the seed into the ground. A man could really plant corn with that outfit, 20 acres a day.

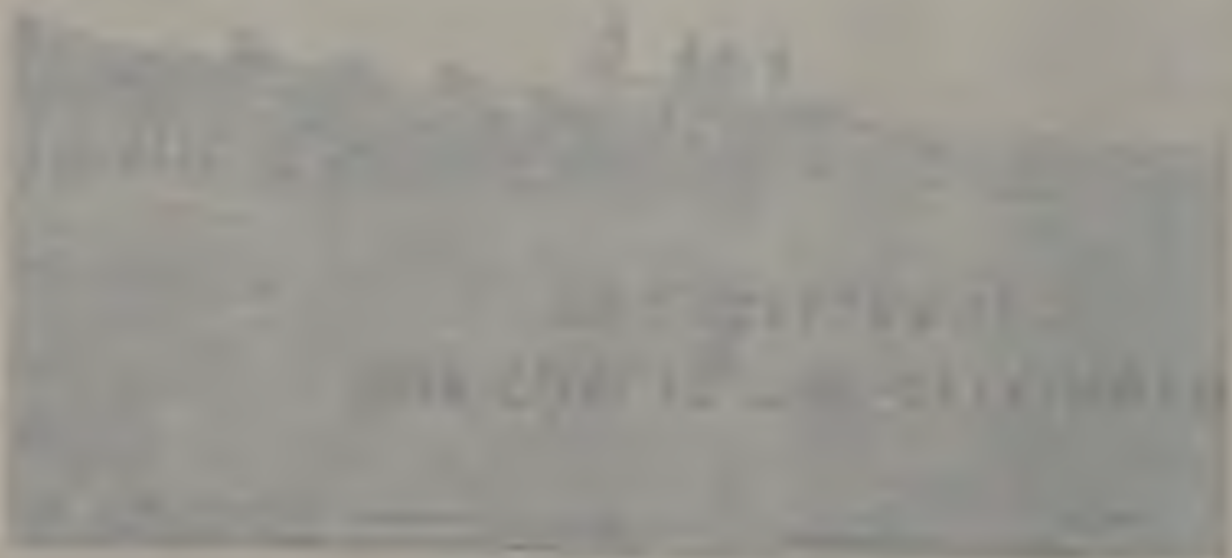
While wheat yielded well at first, in a few years rust took it. Yields were cut and the quality of the grain poor. By selective breeding, present day insect and weed control, and replacing of the depleted elements in the soil, some crops, like flax and wheat that were a failure at the beginning of 1900, can be raised with success in this county now.

With wheat gone, corn, oats, and barley took over the plowed portions of the farm. The rotation was a simple one. Oats and barley one year, corn the next year. That worked well for a while then that, too, went wrong. The soil needed something else.

It is not known when timothy and clover began to replace prairie hay, but when corn was planted on ground after clover hay, the yield and quality improved immediately. There was some alfalfa in 1908, but very little, as it was hard to get the varities of that time to live through the winter. The long root system made it hard to plow if a farmer wanted to plant something else on that field. Now there are improved kinds that will live through the winter, but it is still hard to plow.

With the increase in corn acres, the implements to care for corn improved. The planters and their improvements have been described. The first cultivators were a two shovel affair that went on

An Early Day Farm Scene



one side of the row, then a four shovel walking cultivator that straddled the row. Later, a seat was added so the operator could ride. The riding cultivator came into use about 1885, but both it and the walked were used until about 1912 when the walker was laid aside. About that time, a two row cultivator came into use whereby one man with three or four horses, could do two rows at a time or twice as fast as he had been doing.

About 1917 a tractor cultivator was introduced. A big awkward affair, with the motor between the drive wheels. It was hitched to plows, discs, and cultivators. The operator sat on the implement it was pulling. It was about 1924 that the first tricylce type tractor was used to cultivate corn in this county.

Tractors, used to plow, came to this county about 1914, but not until 1918 were they considered at all practical and even then used on only a few farms.

The first mechanical corn picker was used in 1912. In 1918, due to the shortage of hand pickers, a better corn picker was used with fair success.

For years hay was made by hand. When the first mowers and rakes came on the market, the hay was cocked by hand, and then pitched on the wagon and hauled to the stack or barn. There it was unloaded by hand. Harpoon forks were first used about 1900. The first hay loaders about 1904. Eventually hay slings replaced harpoon forks and hay loaders. Sweep rakes and field stackers became common. Hay balers have been used for years, but not until about 1940 was the field baler used for custom work. Now, nearly all hay is made with a field baler or a field chopper. The field chopper made its appearance about the same time as the field baler.

About 1910 experiment stations found that the entire corn plant could be harvested at frost time and preserved in a silo. Very few silos were used until about 1917. Progress in agriculture often has had to wait for a period of greater demand to bring new ideas into general use and make them prosper. Some of the silos, that were built from 1917 to 1921, later stood empty. The cost of the silo was high and the cutters were high. Moving the bundles of corn from the field to the cutter and into the silo was one of the hard jobs on the farm.

The drought of the mid-thirties caused a revival of ensilage in order to save all the roughage possible, and with it various types of temporary silos. Another improvement that took most of the hard work out of silo filling was the field cutter. Also, it was found that different plants made good feed if used as ensilage.

In 1922 grain combines were on display at the fairs, but not until 1938 were they put in use in this county. The shortage of labor during the first World War caused many of the fields of grain to be combined. Now they have replaced the threshing machine.

The combine made it possible to raise soy beans on a large scale. The old threshing machine split the beans when they were threshed with it, but a new type cylinder and speed control of the combine, threshes the beans without injury to the grain. With beans and the increased use of vegetable oil came a more diver-

An Early Day Farm Scene

sified farming and marketing program.

With the increasing use of vegetable oil, the hog breeders problems increased. The lard market began to dimish and it was the farmer's duty to develop a hog with more lean and less fat. The livestock breeders' and plant breeders' work is long and slow. It requires lots of study and patience. Mother Nature is very stuborn. When a change is to be made, it takes a long time to change a lard type hog to a meat type hog.

With the decrease in grasslands and the increased crop acres, the type of beef cattle had to be changed from a big raw boned beast, that could travel all over for its feed and take three or four years to be ready for market, to a much smaller, more compact type, that uses more grain and is ready for market at eighteen months. Another condition that caused the change to smaller animals was the change in living and eating habits of people. So we have smaller cattle now, or cattle that will prime at a younger age and lighter weight.

The need of increased yields, plant diseases, insects, and depleting soils, have caused the plant breeder his troubles, too. Perhaps the major plant improvement came in hybrid corn. While it was a long time in the developing process, it was about 1934 that much was planted. Its bigger yields, better quality, and standability, soon made its use universal. The fact that it would stand up better than the old type open pollinated corn made mechanical corn pickers practical.

Soil conditions, that were caused by continued croping, and long ignored by the farmer, were the loss of organic matter and of some elements needed to produce strong healthy plants. Organic matter is the binding and saturating agent in soil and without it erosion became a serious problem. In the late thirties, contouring and terracing was seen in Cherokee County to overcome that menace. The principal elements needed in the soils of this county are lime, phosphorus and nitrogen and when farmers became soil conscious these elements were added.

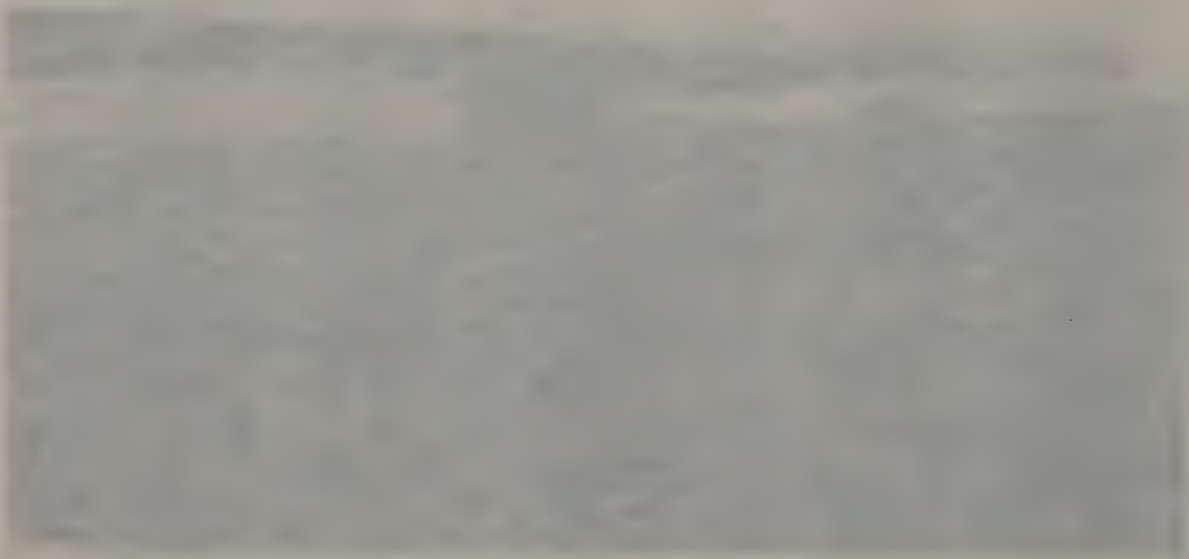
A territory without transportation, thus no access to markets, is destined to stand still. We have had good transportation almost from the beginning. In many instances, and for many kinds of goods, trucks have been an improvement over railroads. The opening of the Missouri River to Sioux City in the near future will bring us new and broader markets.

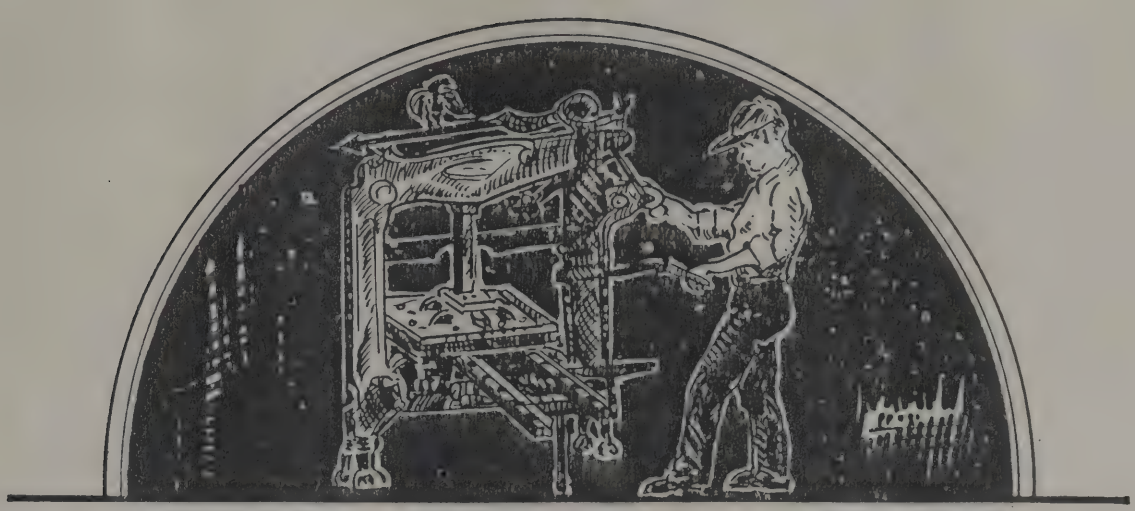
Markets change with human wants, scientific improvements, and substitutions. Each change effects agriculture, one of the basic industries of America.

Many labor saving devices have come along in their time. The sprayer, manure spreader, manure loader, post-hole digger, dirt moving equipment and electrical tools, keep the farmer up-to-date. When one thinks of the home appliances in use now, and the early settlers' housewife, with her hand sewing machine, a duddler, and candle-making equipment, how did they ever get their work done?

With all these changes, it would seem that a farmer wouldn't have any work to do, but the decrease in farm population, he is about as busy now as at any time. The farmer receives more for what he produces now, but with the high standard of living, his income is about in proportion to the farmers of former times. He still has the same task, that of trying to provide for his family and helping to feed hungry humanity.

An Early Day Farm Scene





CHAPTER XI

Newspapers

Since the founding of New Cherokee, newspapers have been chronicling the affairs of Cherokee county residents.

Their good fortune and their tragedies have found space in these publications and bitter political controversies have raged through their columns.

In the early days, newspapers were shortlived, often beng establshed solely for the purpose of preaching a "cause". Through the years, however, "personal" journalism has gone into the discard and its place has been taken by briefer, unbiased reporting.

The early history of Cherokee is well marked with the graves of early newspapers. Some flourished for years, others for months, some for weeks and some for only one edition.

Out of this confusion, two papers emerged, The Times, edited by C & J Barry and The Chief, published by C. C. and Paul Caswell.

Justin and Charles Barry purchased the Cherokee Times in 1915 when it was a Semi-Weekly. In 1917 it became a Tri-Weekly and operated as such until 1928 when it merged with the Chief to form the daily.

The Caswells continued in partnership with Justin Barry until November 1, 1937, when their interest was sold to W. W. Mercer, Roy Mercer and W. E. Bywater of Iowa City.

In 1944, Dwight R. Clark purchased the half interest held by W. E. Bywater and the Mercers.

In the meantime, The Cherokee Courier was established in 1936 by H. C. Snyder and his sons, Gene and Cal, and operated until February 26, 1951 as a weekly, when it was purchased by Barry and Clark of the Times Publishing Company. This paper continues to operate separately as a weekly newspaper in Cherokee.

D. R. Clark has continued to operate the Times Publishing Company as president and publisher since the death of Mr. Barry in July of 1951, and Cherokee today has two newspapers - The Cherokee Daily Times and a weekly, The Cherokee Courier.

Cherokee did not have a local newspaper until the period which also marked the coming of the railroad. The first attempt at establishing a local journal was made by J. F. Ford in January of 1870, who landed here with a six-column handpress. He had only a few fonts of type and after securing a room in the old courthouse, he set up shop. The postoffice was a mile distant and there was no house within a half mile of this location. all of which did not offer an ideal for gathering and sending out any amount of valuable news.

This pioneer paper was called the "Cherokee Chief". It was a six-column folio, one side of which was printed at home. Mr. Ford, although inexperienced, was a writer of ability and of forceful expression. For a few months, his editorials seemed a little shy, from the fact that his columns were filled with state laws which were dished up in eloquent style at 33⅓ cents per square, as provided by law. One day, Mr. Ford's ire was aroused by the lack of schools in our county and he wrote, "The children of the settlers grow up like the dusky savages around them". Henceforth, he was looked upon as public enemy number one and notice was given him to vacate his office . . . Exit the disillusioned Mr. Ford who believed in the freedom of the press, but overlooked the fact that harsh criticism is always hard to swallow.

The second newspaper to make its debut in the county was the "Cherokee Times". It was known as the organ of Republicanism and wielded great influence in this area. Robert Buchanan was the man who founded the "Times" in September of

1870. A few months prior to the finding of the town. He paid J. F. Ford of the "Chief" $300 to leave Cherokee and give him this territory, subscription list and good will. The people raised this amount and in October, Mr. Buchanan

Robrt Buchanan
. . . First Times Editor

moved in an eight-column outfit and an eight-medium jobber. The first issue of the "Cherokee Times" appeared on October 20, 1870. It was then a seven-column folio, half home and half foreign print. The small printing office was located in a frame building on what was later called the Allison block. By the end of the first year of its publication, the "Times" enjoyed a subscription list of over five hundred. The rate was $2. per annum, which was standard price for most Iowa weeklies at that time.

In December of 1876, the "Times" was sold to Ainsworth & Walrath, who conducted it about a year, when Mr. Buchanan repurchased it. He was greeted, upon his return, by two neighbor competitors; one a democrat and the other a greenbacker, but "Buck" held his own and continued to flourish. The 'Times" became housed in a brick block, which stood on the site of the "Opera House", across from the library. It was built at a cost of $4,000 and at various times the equipment was greatly supplemented. In 1881, the old handpress was discarded at which time a power-press was installed and the paper was enlarged to a nine-column folio.

Naturally, a man of such aggressiveness was destined to become involved in a number of controversies, before long, with politically prominent men. Consequently, personal journalism became rampant in Cherokee. The opposing factions established editors to represent them until, in 1885, there were four newspapers published in this city. The "Times" contained many articles bitterly attacking Judge Charles Lewis, with whom Mr. Buchanan had taken issue quite seriously; still, he was clever enough to avoid wording which would subject him to criminal prosecution. However, one day he wrote about "a certain district judge, living not 1,000 miles from Cherokee," etc., but through some error, a zero was omitted, which proved his undoing. There was no district judge, other than Lewis, living within a hundred miles of Cherokee and Mr. Buchanan was indicted for libel.

Shortly thereafter, the paper was sold to R. L. Rowe, who assumed possession January 1, 1885. The new editor was an intellectual who was greatly absorbed by the subject of the tarriff, the great political issue of the day, and he neglected the local columns of the paper to its detriment. When the first of March rolled around, Mr. Rowe called in the men who had gone security for him and frankly told them he could not make a financial success of the paper, nor meet his obligations and asked if they would cancel his indebtness to them. Three attorneys among these men agreed to edit the paper, each taking charge for a week, until other arrangements could be made. These gentlemen were M. Wakefield, A. F. Meservey and Thomas McCulla. It wasn't until April 28, when Lew Raber was secured as editor and manager of the "Times". He did not, however, find editorial work to his liking and resigned after only a few weeks. The task of editing the paper once more befell Thomas McCulla. He purchased the interests of the other owners and conducted the paper up until May, 1892, when he sold out to Kneedler & Bagley. There followed more years of new ownership and changing management, all of which is not of great historical interest.

The next paper to be published in Cherokee was the "Leader", whose first issue appeared on April 24, 1872. It was a neat, seven-column edition put out by L. B. Raymond. His salutatory was very brief, to wit, "This is volume one, number one ,of the "Cherokee Leader", a weekly republican newspaper hereafter and until further notice to be published in Cherokee, Cherokee County, Iowa - terms, $2 per year."

Mr. Raymond asociatted himself in publication of the "Leader" with a James Sheppard on Jnauary 29, 1873. Mr. Sheppard soon severed his connection with this paper, but not until he had roused the temper of the "Times", which had this to say upon his departure: "Sheppard, the retiring luminary of the Leader, whose brilliant corruscations and scintillating anumbrations have dazzled the wondering nations with his glare, feels badly at Cherokee - the dear d---town - and to give it a whole ell with an 'h' to it, shoots from behind the new management of that paper. Doubtless what he considered a sock-dolliger into the Times. In tears we bid adieu to the young man with the big shirt front. May his shadow never grow less and his shanks never fail him".

On July 9, 1873, Mr. Raymond sold out to C. W. Ainsworth but by November 8th, the paper appeared with Eli Johnson as editor and proprietor. Upon assuming control, Mr. Johnson said the he would advocate "none but good men for office and will try to be on the right side of all the growing questions of the day, viz., labor, money, tariff, woman's suffrage and temperance." He further stated that, "the necessity of two papers in the county is acknowledged by all and the only question is whether or not we will be able to make the paper a success and worthy of your patronage and we are sure if we do that it will not go without." On several occasions, Mr. Johnson would sell half interest of the paper but the partnerships were always short-lived, until August 22, 1874, when he became affiliated with Henry Luge. The paper was then enlarged to an eight-column folio and Mr. Luge took active editorial control. This connection continued for a year and while Mr. Luge's experience was limited, he seemed to have learned what all newspaper men find out sooner or later, for on retiring on September 9, 1875, he wrote: "Life is too short to harbor hatred and ill feeling and humanity is too weak and too numerous for one man to cause anything but a ripple in the great stream of life." The "Leader" was then published by Johnson & Aldrich, J. H. Aldrich being the editor.

Early in 1877, McCormick & Parks established the "Free Press". A few months later, Mr. Parks died and after a short time, S. R. Bassett purchased the paper and it continued as an independent greenback publication. He soon associated himself with Eli Johnson and finally, on June 28, 1878, Eli Johnson became sole publisher until November of the same year when he took into partnership W. P. Goldie. This lasted until August 30, 1881, when Johnson & Goldie sold the "Free Press' to a stock company, with the announcement that, "the paper is in the hands of a committee composed of G. R. Henderson, G. Braasch, George Gilbert, L. H. Moore, and J. H. Frasier, who announce that they are determined to make it an earnest, live, free, fearless, greenback newspaper". Mr. Sovereign became editor upon Mr. Johnson's retirement on January 9, 1883.

Mr. Sovereign continued as editor until February 4, 1884, when he retired and the paper sold to other parties. In his valedictory, he says: "We step down and out of this office only to reappear some other place at no distant day. It is not our intention to abandon the field. We will continue to annoy our enemies and gratify our friends. Lets both watch for our head to protrude from the journalistic surf." The editor further states that he would have announced his successor if he only knew who it was to be, therefore, he said: "We presume the Free Press was bought for bolstering up the "Maja' and the purchaser wishes the new editor to be a surprise to the public." The public was not kept long in suspense for the next issue had as its head the name of H. C. Kellogg. Mr. Kellogg retired after a most brief editorship, for in March of 1884, the plant paseed into the hands of Mr. S. L. Wilson of Audubon, who changed it to a republican paper. He was soon forced through financial embarrassment to lock up the office and turn the paper over to those who had claims against it.

Jerome Rose came into possession of the material and on August 6, 1884, he issued the first number of the "Cherokee Cyclone" as a democratic paper. This paper and Mr. Rose died in less than three months. The material of the "Cyclone" was soon after bought by F. O. Besline, known as 'the blind editor' who changed the name to "The Enterprise". Mr. Besline was totally blind but by a device invented by himself, he set much of the type for his paper and although handicapped, he put out a very newsy paper for about two years. The "Cyclone" was eventually absorbed by the "Times".

The democrats decided that Cherokee must have a representative organ of their own and so the "Democrat" was established about this time. The paper was edited for approximately two years when it was bought by the "Cherokeean". a paper which hod been established by W. P. Goldie in 1885, and became the "Cherokee Democrat."

There were three other papers published in Cherokee, but each lived a very short time. One was the "Courier" which was established in 1882, and the other was the "Reporter" which commenced in 1878. The third was the "Independent" which was a by-product of the old "Leader" material.

The "Cherokee Hearld" came into existence in 1892 by Bagley & Hobart. As stated herein, Mr. Bagley was the ex-copartner of Mr. Kneedler of the "Times" before a disagreement ended the union. After changing hands several times, this paper too was absorbed by the "Times" in 1902.

This last absorbtion in the newspaper field left two papers in Cherokee. The reduction left only the "Times' and the "Democrat" until 1908, when the division in the republican party became quite pronounced, resulting in the outcrop of more faction. The result was a second Republican paper being published by H. M. Stuart under the name of the "Cherokee Republican", which like others before has since disappeared.

The newspaper, perhaps, is one of the greatest civilizing powers in the development of a new country. As records of history, the bound files of old newspapers are invaluable. They reflect the thoughts, the acts, the politics, the finance, the pulse of an era; as well, if not better, than the historian himself.

CHAPTER XII

Transportation

The first transportation in this area was the Indian pony on land, and the canoe of the Indian and trapper going up and down the Little Sioux. When they broke camp, the Indians had a drag consisting of two poles with a framework across them which they tied behind their ponies, loaded with the tepee, cooking utensils, clothing, etc. The trappers who made their way westward could hardly be told from their red brothers, in fact most of them usually had a squaw or two to do the camp work.

The first settlers who came out of the Iowa plains from the eastern states brought horses and oxen with their covered wagons. It was during this period that the glacial formation of rock, southeast of Cherokee, became known as "Pilot Rock". When the drivers of the early wagon trains saw the rock, they knew they were nearing Cherokee, and the danger of Indian attack was over. These settlers had to go sometimes to Council Bluffs, sometimes to Sioux City, sometimes to Fort Dodge, and even one hundred and fifty miles to Mankato, Minnesota for flour. One can imagine how grateful they were to sight "Pilot Rock" after one of these hard journeys. If they had not been hunters and able to live off the land, these pioneers could not have endured the hardships they had to face.

In 1856 land was granted and a survey made for a railroad to run across Iowa from Dubuque to Sioux City. The company backing this move was known as the Dubuque and Pacific Railroad Co. The first railroad in Iowa, from Dubuque to Dyersville, was opened and a passenger train made a trip in 1857. The track was not ballasted and the engine was on the ground three times on this run of twenty-nine miles.

The panic of 1857 hurt the company, and they tried to make an unsuccessful comeback in 1859. They managed to get the line to Jessup, but had to go into the hands of the Receiver from which came a Company called the Dubuque and Sioux City Railroad Co.

By the time the Civil War came along, the rails had been laid to Cedar Falls. Of course the war stopped all building in Iowa as it did elsewhere. But the Illinois Central made a name for itself moving the Blue troops south, among them the volunteers from Cherokee.

After the war of the Great Rebellion was over, construction of railroads started again, and the D and S moved on to Iowa Falls. It was at this time that the Illinois Central leased the existing track and began to extend the road to Sioux City. The company got their help for this venture by advertising in New York papers offering $1.25 per day wages, and cheap fares from the eastern metropolis. This brought the "brawling micks" over here because of the potato famine in Ireland, and the Swedish boys out to make their fortunes in America.

By August 16, 1869, the track had been extended to Fort Dodge. Now it became a race between a crew starting at Sioux City and one from Fort Dodge. On July 8, 1870, they met just two miles west of Storm Lake thus completing the Illinois Central Railroad to the Missouri River.

The first freight trains left Waterloo with what cars they could drag and took two or three days to reach Sioux City, depending upon the weather. When the crew became sleepy, they pulled off on a siding and slept. Passenger cars were lighted with dim oil lamps or candles, and in winter some were heated with wood burners and some not heated at all.

To the people of Cherokee a railroad seemed a much needed blessing. But there was such a long time between the survey and actual building that it began to be looked upon as gigantic farce and a myth to the settlers who were still cut off from

Illinois Central Railroad Yards

eastern markets, and in fact were a small republic by themselves. Emigrants were few and far between at this time as Cherokee was north of the east-west stage route across the state and the few who remained here were tempted and frequently planned to leave Cherokee. The actual coming of the railroad moved Cherokee from the original settlement site to New Cherokee.

Some idea of the boom the coming of the rail brought, may be gained from studying the sales of Luther and Rice in 1870. For their first eleven months in business they sold 226,000 feet of lumber, 467,000 shingles, 16,000 pounds of building paper, four carloads of sash and doors, and a carload of nails and hardware.

In 1886 and '87 Cherokee overcame the inducements of Fort Dodge, Storm Lake and LeMars to become the Illinois Central division point, that is, where the branch north from Onawa to Sioux Falls crossed the east-west Fort Dodge to Sioux City line. C. K. Dixon, the first superintendent, built a home in Cherokee.

Cattle buyers came out by rail from Chicago to study the herds of the cattle raisers.

The farmer and his neighbors on horseback drove the cattle on hoof to the stockyards in town where they would be loaded in cars and shipped to market. This was an exciting time for the small boys in town, who would run along and help turn the cattle down the right streets.

Usually more than one feeder shipped cattle at a time and they would go along to care for their cattle. By signing the back of their stock contracts they received free transportation in a car fitted with bunks and a flat top stove at one end for heating and cooking, called a Dover's Caboose.

The first automobiles appeared on the Iowa prairie during the early nineteen hundreds. They had high wheels on account of the mud roads. Farmers began to have individual trucks to take their grain and hogs to town. This was the day of Henry Ford's "Model T". It is said that they never did find out how much one of the small trucks could haul for many times they moved four and five ton loads. All these cars and trucks had to be cranked by hand for there weren't any "self-starters". The engines used to kick like a mule especially when trying to turn one over in cold weather, causing many broken arms. In the winter they used to have to jack up one hind wheel of some of the cars to start them.

The advent of cars and trucks made necessary better grading and graveling of the streets of Cherokee and the roads leading there. Tires and tubes weren't as roadworthy as now, there were many more blowouts and they caused more accidents.

The farmers who had trucks began to haul stock and grain to Cherokee for those who didn't, thus some men began trucking exclusively. Not having to bother with delivering, the farmer could put all of his time on production. Truck hauling was just to the local market and the railroad was still depended on for long hauls to primary markets.

Hicks Dray Wagon

Then the railroad came out with larger engines capable of hauling more cars, so began the time of the stock pick-up runs. A crew would leave Cheorkee with engine and caboose, and have a full trainload of stock by the time they reached Fort Dodge. These big engines were hand fired and for shoveling the needed coal the fireman got about thirty dollars a month from the paymaster.

After World War I the Mental Health Institute had a former army truck with the cab over the engine. This was before its time and people made fun of it, saying it was not practical. Today there are many stub nosed tractors built on the same lines.

It was shortly after "Black Jack" Pershing received "Kaiser Bill's" sword that the first aeroplanes appeared locally. Curly Florine had been a flyer during the war and wanted to continue at home. Another enthusiast was Heinie Smith. Also a young mechanic in the Florine Garage by the name of Ed Rickenbacker (who is now president of Eastern Airlines) was able to really "fly by the seat of his pants".

These young men formed what they called a flying circus and did much to build up the confidence of the public in planes by walking the wings, hanging by the knees from a rope ladder suspended beneath the plane, and going from one plane to the other climbing up the rope ladder. They used surplus World War I planes called "Curtiss Jennys". They also developed the first retractable landing gear, heard of around here, which was cranked up manually. These plane wings and fuselages were fabric covered and so had to be guarded each time they landed so the crowd wouldn't poke holes through them.

During the depression a pilot by the name of Harold Gilmore kept people interested in flying with a "Curtiss Robin" plane which he flew from the airfield which the city had purchased from

First Airplane To Land In Cherokee

B. E. Alton. Some people took flying lessons, but most of the revenue was from short hops which people took on holidays and Sundays.

The pilots were quite picturesque with boots, leather jackets flying helmets and goggles which were necessary because the planes had open cockpits.

At this time the railroad suffered too, for shipping fell off and they had to cut help as well as sharply reduce train service.

Group Of Cherokee Cars In 1910

Truckers were hauling loads and hardly making day for day wages. Their racks were patched and they made their tires go as far as possible.

World War II brought prosperity to the railroad because besides moving thousands of troops, they moved tons of freight which had moved by trucks before the government rationed tires and gasoline. Thus the railroad was able to build a new freight station and remodel the passenger depot in Cherokee besides laying new rail and putting better ballast under the track.

After the war the government offered pilot training as part of the G. I. Bill; this together with the returned pilots who wanted to fly made for a lot of activity at the airport. Farmers who

A. C. Smith and son Lauren — About 1914.

had large land holdings began to use planes to save time in doing their work, so that a group grew up called "Flying Farmers". It became popular for men taking trips desiring to save time to go by plane, and fishing and hunting parties who wanted to go far north went by plane. Flying medicine and supplies in time of great need became part of airplane service.

The planes from Cherokee's airport aided during the snow storms which isolated so much of Nebraska in 1951. With the Government furnishing part of the funds it was possible to build a new cement block hangar and thus the field could care for many light planes.

The highway transportation came back with big semi trucks that could haul loads of cattle to Chicago, and larger straight trucks to haul more merchandise.. There were plenty of tires and quantities of gasoline so that they began to cut in on railroad revenue quite severley. Hogs

One of First Threew Autos Owned In Cherokee

and grain moved by truck to Sioux City, Chicago and Kansas City. The trucks brought back loads of lumber, cement and various other merchandise to pay for the return trip.

At this writing, due to the development of the diesel engine, the railroad is hauling longer trains and making longer trips so that Cherokee isn't the railroad center it was at one time.

There are more trucks than ever with several common carrier truck lines going through here. A number of companies have their own trucks. Busses from Sioux City to Fort Dodge carry the passengers who used to ride the Daily Iowan.

There are many locally owned airplanes based at the airport, and with the development of larger planes that can land on short runways, there is no doubt that the airplane will take a very definite place in the transportation system of Cherokee.

CHAPTER XIII

Landmarks

What was once a gravel pit, owned by the Illinois Central Railroad, is now Spring Lake, a popular swimming pool, surrounded by picnic grounds. Much of the gravel used as ballast by the Illinois Central Railroad was taken from this pit. In the year 1928 it was purchased by the Cherokee Realty and Amusement Co., who began the development of the lake for amusement purposes. In 1941 the city of Cherokee purchased the property, and it is maintained by the city at the present time.

The old mill stones are all that remain to memorialize the site of the old white mill. They rest on the west bank of the Little Sioux river, a stone's throw north of the old white mill bridge, (Spruce Street bridge.)

There are cemeteries in every township of the county, most of which are still in use. Those closest to Cherokee are Oak Hill, on the west edge of the city, maintained by the city and Mt. Calvary about one-half mile west of the Country Club, owned by Immaculate Conception Parish.

The Carnegie Public Library built in 1905.

The Cherokee Country Club was organized in 1923. A nine hole golf course is maintained on the 80 acres of ground. The club has a swimming pool, said to be the only one maintained by a club of this size in the state of Iowa.

Radio Station KCHE was opened January 1, 1952. Studios are located in the Deleplane building. The tower, north of town on Highway 59 serves as a beacon to travelers.

The first Pilot-Rock Plowing match was patterned after similar events held in Will County Illinois, from where most of the residents of these townships had come. John Bridie and Dave Patterson are known to have competed in the first contest held in 1908. For years these contests were held on farms in Pilot and Rock townships. At first activities were confined to plowing with some entertainment, but gradually additions were made, until now the annual event takes on the aspects of a fair. In 1952 the Pilot-Rock Plowing Match Association bought 15 acres on the south edge of Cherokee, to be used as a permanent site for the annaul Plowing match exhibits, with plowing to be done on near-by farms.

For many years elk and deer were protected behind the high fences on this farm.

The Illinois Central Railroad depot. Adjacent to it is a small park, which was once beautiful with flowers and a fountain.

Cherokee's Health resort brought many vacationers to Cherokee to take mineral and rest cure. The Fountain House was a resort hotel located near the natural magnetic springs Spa.

A red granite stone with a bronze plaque marks the entrance to the old Fort. It was built in 1862 and 1863 and include several buildings which provided for the general welfare of the community.

Pilot Rock rests on a hill about three and one-half miles south of Cherokee. Travelers on U. S. Highway 59 view this huge red quartzite boulder which appears like the form of an old hay stack to the east of the road. Reports are given that claim Pilot Rock to be the largest boulder of Sioux Falls quartzite in the state of Iowa.

For many years a wealth of talent performed in the Opera House-Stock Companies, Light Opera, Minstrel shows, Road Shows and many others. This building houses the present Arrow theatre.

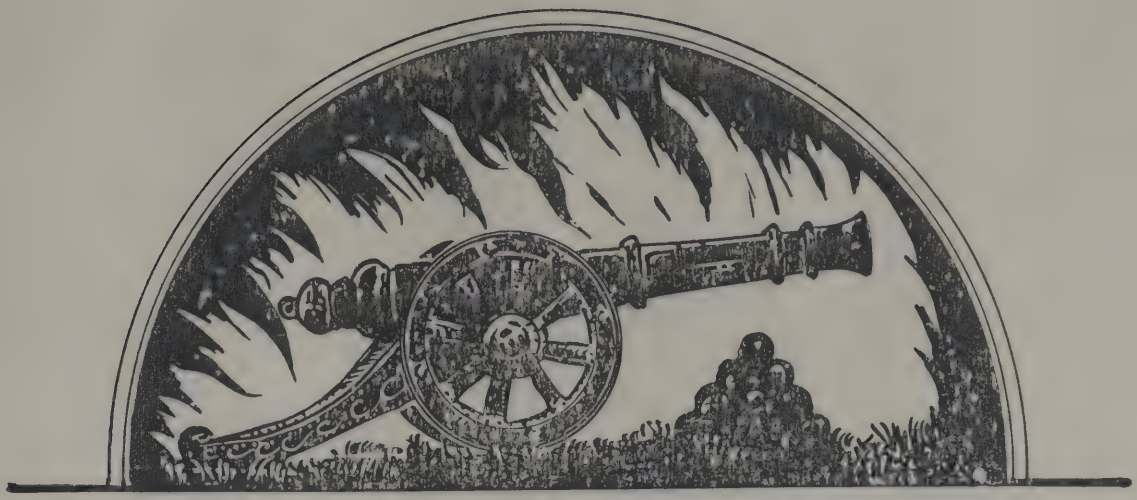
The Cherokee Airport purchased in 1934 for $5,500. With additions it includes 102 acres. There are three runways. Facilities available include training, charter trips, crop spraying and ambulance service.

The Mental Health Institute, originally known as The State Hospital, was opened for use in 1902. The grounds comprise approximately 1000 acres.

The Masonic Temple was built in 1931 on land donated by John Potter, a pioneer.

The Lewis Hotel built in 1898 by Robert A. Lewis, grandfather of Dale and Garland Goldie.

The Sanford Museum was opened in 1951 as an institution for the display of educational exhibits in the field of natural science, history and art. The trust fund from which the museum was constructed and is endowed was established by Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Sanford in memory of their only child, Tiel Per Lee Sanford. It includes the first planetarium in Iowa and at present possesses the newest model A-1 Spitz projector.



CHAPTER XIV

In The National Service

Since the first settlers came to the Cherokee vicinity in 1956 there have been five times when a substantial number of its young men were called to serve in the armed forces because our country was at war. They have never failed to heed the call. Even in the year that this is being written, our young men are sevring on the high seas and in so many foreign countries that we have had to become students of geography to know where they are located. Nearly every one of them has served with honor to himself, his family, his community, and his country, and many have served with distinction and beyond the call of duty. Many a family treasures a citation to one of its members, given for out-standing service in time of war.

Nor should we overlook the service rendered by many of the community's young women in time of war, for they served where needed most, as nurses, in secretarial capacities and in other ways through the medium of the various branches of the service open to young women.

After their return from active service most of the young men have joined the organizations, composed of those who have served in time of war, so that they might be better enabled to bring their power to bear to the end that our government might better care for those who were disabled during their service and might better care for the widows and orphans of those who gave the last full measure of devotion. Not only have they done that, but they have given of their time and ability to advance the general welfare of this community where they live and of their country as a whole.

As did the members of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Spanish American War Veterans gain the confidence and respect of the people for their organizations, so have the members of the American Legion, The Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Disabled American Veterans gained the confidence and respect of our people for themselves and their organizations.

Naming of individuals of Cherokee, who have served our country would be impossible. Many have earned high rank - Generals and Admirals, Colonels, Captains, Lieutenants and Master Sergeants — but many who have served as privates did just as fine a job and contributed as much to the success of our forces.

However, in this connection it might be interesting to quote from records of Civil War Days. During these years some of the men were called to national arms, in fact eleven out of the eighteen men (fourteen eligible) of the entire county were called. These were as follows: Ezra Wilcox, Joel Davenport, Frank Mead, Silas B. Parkhurst, N. Rogers, Geo. W. Lebourveau, Walter Burgess, Geo. W. Banister, Wm. Banister, Luther Phipps, Albert Phipps, Levi Scurlock and Jasper Scurlock. Although there are fourteen names listed as serving we cannot ascertain whether these are the fourteen eligible listed above. We can determine, though, that eleven received their beckon and went immediately. In review of biographies we find that some volunteered at a later date. At any rate, it shows that Cherokee County, with its sparse population gave unselfishly of its able bodied men to the national cause whereas it might seem they were more dearly needed at home.

It being characteristic of the American man to not wish for hymns of praise, or marble statues, even though they served with great distinction, no further listings are made.

Cherokee takes great pride in those who have served and extends to them its heartfelt appreciation for the part that they have played in preserving the United States of America, our beloved country, that with all its faults, and with all its virtues stands as the greatest power in the world of today.

1956 BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

READY-TO-WEAR AND SHOE STORES

Brown Shoe Fit Company
Cherie and Mike's
Delaplane Shoe Store
Ellerbroek's
Gildner and Sauer
Hawley Allison
Hemmingson Shoes
J. C. Penney Company
Sears Roebuck and Company
St. Clair and Kovaleske
Towne and Country
Velma's Specialty Shop
Wolff and Wolff

DRUG STORES

Mallory Drug Store
McWilliams Drug Store
Nelson Drug Store

GROCERY STORES

Cherokee Fruit and Grocery
Council Oak Stores
Ehlers Lockers
Fareway Stores
Handy Cash Grocery
Hinkel and Blackburn
Jenkin's Grocery
Loucks Market
Simmons Market
Swanson's Super Market
Spruce Street Market
West Cedar Brocery

FURNITURE STORES

Lamoreux Trading Post
Matt Furniture
Schimdt Furniture
Dobson Furniture
Stahl Furniture Exchange

VARIETY STORES

Davis 5c to $1.00
F. W. Woolworth

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Berk's Studio
Salsbery's Studio

HARDWARE DEALERS

Coast to Coast Stores
Dorr's Sportsmen Service
Gamble's
Klatt's Hardware
Swanson's Hardware
Western Auto Stores

DAIRIES

Dee's Dairy
Nelson Dairy

IMPLEMENT DEALERS

Berglund-Schneider
Bushlow Implement
Cherokee Implement Company
Engel Implement
K. W. Hall
Northside Implement

LUMBER YARDS

Cherokee Cashway
Lane Moore Lumber Company
Rock Island Lumber Company
Schoeneman Bros. Lumber Company

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

A & J TV Service
Booth Electrical Service
Barney's TV Servicenter
Champion Electric Store
Dick & Mert's TV Service
Fuhrman's Refrigerator Service
Beckman's Home Appliance
McLaughlin & Son Electric
Paul's Radio Lab
Rutherford Appliance
Walker Washer Service
Welch Appliance
Henry's Refrigerator Service

JEWELERS

Coon Jewelry
Royer & Son Jewelry

PAINT & DECORATING STORES

Huber's Wallpaper & Paint
Johnson Painting & Decorating
Koopman Brothers
Marshall Decorating Store

GRAIN, ELEVATOR, PRODUCE, FEED & SEEDS

B & H Hatchery
Bierman & Conley Produce
Cherokee Grain Feed Co.
Chieftain Feeds
DeKalb
Farmer's Co-op
Farm Feed & Supply
Fox Built Feeds
France's Grain & Feed
France's Hatchery
Hartley Creamery Co.
Earl May Seed Store
Larry's Seed & Nursery
Moorman Feeds
Pfister Feeds
Roger's Mineral
Schultz Produce
Simonsen Feeds
Victor Feed and Sales
Pilley & Son
Pioneer Feeds

TAXI CABS

Virginia's Cab

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Central Trust and Savings Bank
Cherokee State Bank
Steele State Bank
Sioux Valley Savings & Loan

INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE

Armbrecht, H. M. Insurance
Bell Insurance Agency
Bierbaum Insurance
Cherokee County Abstract
Farm Bureau
Farmer's Insurance Group
First Abstract & Loan
Floyd D. Gray Insurance
Gilchrist Insurance
Don Guest Insurance
Lincoln Mutual Insurance
Moore Abstract & Title Co.
Miller & McClintock
Nafe Insurance
New York Life Insurance
Public Loan Association
T. M. Timmons
H. O. True Insurance
Woltman Real Estate

BOOKKEEPING

Grawburg Bookkeeping
Maxwell Accounting & Tax Eervice
Moore Abstract & Title Co.

FINANCE COMPANIES

Iowa Finance Company
Public Loan Association

FILLING STATIONS & BULK PLANTS

Art's Royal 400
Bomar Propane
Brown Oil Company
Carey-Larson Service
Cobb's Friendly Service
Dean's Servicenter
Firestone Stores
Fixel Oil Company
Green Bros. Service Station
Green Gable Station
Hahn's Cities Service
Holmes' DX
James' Skelley Service
Jensen's Standard Service
Mid-Continent Petroleum Co.
Peck's Co-op Station
Phillips 66
Phillips 66 (East Main)
Quinn's Service Station
Ray's Skelley Service
Standard Oil Company
Skelley Oil Company
Standard Service Station
Vetter Oil Company
Waters Oil Company

WELDERS

Wittkamp Welding
Bugh Welding
Rupp Machine Shop

THEATRES & RECREATION

American Theatre
Arrow Theatre
Corral Theatre
Sanford Museum
Tomahawk Roller Rink
Soo Speed Bowl
20th Century Bowling Alley

BEAUTY SHOPS

Esther's Beauty Shop
Harriet's Beauty Shoppe
Henderson Beauty Shop
Judy's Beauty Shop
Modern Beauty Shop
Thelma's Beauty Shop
Waltmar Beauty Shop

BARBER SHOPS

American Barber Shop
Conley Barber Shop
Fritz's Barber Shop
Given Barber Shop
Lieb Barber Shop
Wixon Barber Shop
Ryan Barber Shop

HOTELS, MOTELS & APARTMENTS

Gran Apartments
Greer Hotel
Hillside Apartments
L. D. Cabins
Lewis Hotel
Northside Motel
Raymond Hotel
Skyline Motel

PLUMBING & HEATING

Carlson Plumbing
Johnson Tin Shop
Karlson's Plumbing & Heating
Mangold Plumbing & Heating
Nash Plumbing
Cahill Plumbing

TRUCKING

Carlson Trucking
Clark's Dray & Storage
Cherokee Cartage & Ice Co.
Hick's Dray Line
Louck's Trucking
Marsh Trucking
McManus Trucking
Mueller Trucking
Miller Transfer
Rausch Trucking
Steward Trucking

CAFES & POOL HALLS

A & W Root Beer
Arrow Cafe

Charley's Steak House
Chet's Place
Chief Cafe
Conard's Cafe
Cottage Ice Cream
Dinner Bell
D & R Cafe
Dairy Queen
Green Gable Inn
Green Lantern Cafe
Hi-Ho Club
Pastime Cigar Store
Pleazol Store
Quality Cafe
Simmons Brothers Pool Hall
Soda Grill
Sweezey's Hamburger Shop

GARAGES & MOTOR REPAIR

Beal's Motor Rewind
Berglund - Schneider Motor Co.
Blankenbaker Automotive
Carey-Larson Service
Cherokee Body Shop
Claus Tilton Repair Shop
Cobb's Friendly Service
Dilocker Used Auto Parts
Dunn's Chevrolet Company
Engel Motor Company
Kled's Auto Repair
Love Tire Shop
National Auto Parts
Norris Cherokee Motors
Olsen Body Shop
Peterson Motor Company
Samsel Garage
Sieg Company
Smith Radiator Repair
Studebaker Sales & Service
United Wholesalers

WHOLESALE & MANUFACTURING

B & B Sales
Baumann's Home Bakery
Brown Oil Company
Caswell Manufacturing
Chieftain Feeds
Cherokee Concrete Products
Cherokee Creamery Co.
Cherokee Silo Manufacturing
Chesterman Bottling
Chief Manufacturing
Farmer's Produce
Farner Bocken
Gran Laboratories
Griffith Fertilizer
Lundell Manufacturing
M & Y Sign Company
Cherokee Manufacturing
Royal Scot Sales
Rath Packing
Schalekamp Hog Buying
Schissel Manufacturing
Shea Sand & Gravel Co.

MISCELLANEOUS

Cherokee County Credit Bureau
Cherokee Livestock Auction
Culligan Soft Water
DeLuxe Shoe Repair
Fabric Center
Cherokee Surplus Store
Holden Monument
Irene's Sewing Basket
Mahoney Dental Lab
Moorehead Upholstery
Neil's Cubby Hole
Singer Sewing Machine
Wooley Shoe Repair

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

Dr. C. E. Broderick
Blair & Seely
Dr. James Blair
Dr. H. D. Seely
Dr. Charles Ellsworth
Dr. C. H. Johnson
Dr. Don C. Koser
Dr. C. L. Seaman
Wise, Lawlor & Fishman
Dr. J. H. Wise
Dr. J. F. Lawlor
Dr. Harlow Fishman

OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN

Dr. J. E. Bunker
Dr. Leo C. Harrison
Hirschman & Hirschman
Dr. J. A. Hirschman
Dr. J. W. Hirschman
Dr. Estelle Wise

DENTISTS

Dr. G. E. Avery
Dr. G. J. Fleig
Dr. Charles Jarratt
Dr. James Johnson
Dr. R. V. Hanlon
McCollister & Hogan
Dr. P. S. McCollister
Dr. E. C. Hogan
Dr. A. J. Tanner

OPTOMETRISTS

Dr. Frank Collings
Dr. J. Albert Fritz

CHIROPRACTORS

Dr. Carl Barr
Dr. John Rebarcak

CHIROPODIST

Dr. James Moore

VETERINARIANS

Dr. James Creel
Dr. John Dewar
Dr. A. W. Krause

ATTORNEYS

Guy M. Gillette
Herrick, Ary & Cook
Lester Ary

Lawrence McCulla
McCulla & Moen
W. P. McCulla
Harlen Moen
McDonald, Sayre & McDonald
Lew McDonald
David L. Sayre
James McDonald
William McDonald
Don R. Hankens
John F. Loughlin
John D. Loughlin
Maher, Meloy & Hankens
Jack Cook
Loughlin & Loughlin
Harold McWilliams
Smith & Martin
Claude M. Smith
Loyal Martin
Miller, Miller & Miller
Justus Miller
Marvin Miller
Nelson & Nelson
Archie Nelson
Joe G. Nelson

ABSTRACTERS

Moore Abstract and Title Co.
First Abstract and Loan

Leo A. Hoegh

Governor of Iowa

Speaker For Dedication

Of Centennial

Time Capsule

The Time Capsule

The Time Capsule is a respository for records and objects of the present time 1956, intended to remain sealed for 100 years and then opened at the bicentennial of Cherokee 2056. The "capsule" is a stainless steel cylinder, about 10 inches in diameter, and 5 feet long. It will be filled after the close of the centennial celebration, June 5. A cap will be welded on it, the air will be withdrawn from it and replaced by an inert gas, argon, after which the capsule will be sealed. Then it will be placed in a waterproofed concrete vault on the Sanford Museum grounds. Above the vault site will be a marker of some kind, possibly a native stone such as a glacial boulder. It is intended that a sundial and an appropriate plaque will be on this stone marker. A record of the time capsule site will be filed at the Cherokee county courthouse, at the Iowa State Historical Society in Des Moines, and at other places.

The capsule and some of the material to go in it will be displayed at the Sanford Museum before the centennial celebration days. It will be shown on a float in the centennial parade. Immediately following the parade, on June 4, the capsule, vault, burial site, and possibly the marker, will be dedicated in a formal ceremony. Governor Leo A. Hoegh, will give a short dedication talk at this ceremony.

The material to go into the time capsule will consist of at least the following items:

The Centennial Book.

A Time Capsule Registration book, containing the names of those who sign it at the museum during the centennial celebration days.

Copies of the Cherokee Daily Times and Cherokee Courier newspapers, especially the centennial editions.

Chamber of Commerce publications, especially the roster of all the organizations in Cherokee.

Represantative material from the Cherokee manufacturing concerns.

Farm products, as hybrid corn, grains, etc. to be supplied by the Farm Bureau, along with copy of their publication.

Sanford Museum publications.

School annuals.

Curent telephone directory.

Mental Health Institute publication.

Photograhps of Cherokee, such as buildings, scenes, aerial photos, etc., also of centennial activities, displays, etc.

Tape recordings especially "A Day in Cherokee, 1956", of various sounds, voices, such as radio station KCHE sign on, town clock, school band, traffic, etc. Recording of some centennial activities.

Other records, also some objects, as coins, stamps, etc.

(So-called "Time Capsules" have been buried at various places, such as the one at the New York World's Fair in 1939, for 5,000 years. The Iowa State Fair buried a "Centurlon" in 1954, containing a large quantity of records and material, including a dollar bill from President Eisenhower.)

The Time Capsule

Do You Remember When?

Sent by Mrs. Belle Liffring

Thought to have been written by

Father of Dale Goldie

Do you remember Second Street
With hitching posts galore,
All the way from Nelson's Music place
Past P. F. Fassler's store?

And on the side of Millard's store
There ran the iron stairs,
To where Dad Goldie worked and bore
His editorial cares.

And on these steps in afternoons
And evenings after toil,
We watched old "Dead Shot" Tomlinson
Sell medicated oil.

And northward in the P. O. block,
Stood wondrous mansions three,
Geo. A. Johnson's, Dr. Burlingame's
And the Burroughs home "N. T."

While on the Lincoln high school lot,
In barns chock full of gigs,
F. D. Yaw was trading horses
And renting livery rigs.

Da Yau Ferrenkler Wlant?

Centennial Committee

The Cherokee residents pictured above serve as the Central Committee for Cherokee's Centennial observance, and coordinate plans of the many special committees. Each Central Committee member is a chairman of a committee, with Charles H. D. Smith as general chairman overall.

Seated, from left to right are: Mrs. Donald Wray, Meyer Wolff, Virginia Herrick, Charles H. D. Smith, W. D. Frankforter, Mrs. Paul Hoyt, A. I. McClintock and Mary Annette McCulla. Standing, left to right are: Russ Froyd, Roger Millikan, Loren Anderson, Carl Schleef, Ted Johnson, Barney Bowen.

Acknowledgements

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Al Larsen
James Lamoreux
Mrs. Erma Smith
C. H. D. Smith
Donald McConnell
Bob Weis
Merlin Young
Peter Laposky
Mrs. Minnie Cobb
Mrs. Vi Booth
James M. Dunn
Dale Hicks

CHEROKEE'S DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR

By Miss Ann Onymous

Last week you asked us "old ones"
To write of Cherokee,
And furnish light and color
For the Diamond Jubilee.

I accept the invitation,
And take my fountain pen,
To indite a little poem, called
"Do You Remember When."

And because of the diversity
Of subjects I will treat
The meter may be ragged,
And may have some extra feet.

But if it serves it's purpose,
I will have my little say,
And add a few new verses
For the paper every day.

Remember on the corner
Where McWilliams mixes dope,
In a long white rambling grocery,
Henry Nye sold prunes and soap.

And while in the smelly front room,
Henry Nye sold salt and sprats,
In the back room was a caucus
Of the rampant Democrats.

Henry Luge was up from Pitcher,
And D. Liffring there from Rock
"J.D.F." all set and primed to give
The G.O.P. a knock.

And on the Brummer corner,
In memory, I confess,
I can see old Charley Goldsbury
With Pelton, playing chess.

While on the State Bank corner
With many a clang and clank,
Hill Cornish sold his hardware
With the Millards, Will and Frank.

And on the Northwest corner,
Standing now and standing then,
Was our pride, the three-tiered building,
Of Hawley Allison and Ben.

We wish to pay special tribute to Cherokee's Sanford Museum and it's staff. The Museum — one of Cherokee's greatest accomplishments during the past 100 years - has served as headquarters for not only this committee, but for all committees connected with the Centennial. Spearheading the work of organizing the Centennial observance, the Museum will also serve as headquarters during the actual celebration.

CHEROKEE CENTENNIAL CORP.
Cherokee, Iowa